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Ruins of St. Andrew's Cathedral & Chapel of St. Peter.

A
JOURNEY

FROM

EDINBURGH

THROUGH

PARTS OF NORTH BRITAIN:

CONTAINING

REMARKS ON SCOTISH LANDSCAPE;
AND OBSERVATIONS ON RURAL ECONOMY, NATURAL
HISTORY, MANUFACTURES, TRADE, AND COMMERCE;

Interpersed with

ANECDOTES,
TRADITIONAL, LITERARY, AND HISTORICAL;

TOGETHER WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES,
RELATING CHIEFLY TO CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS, FROM
THE TWELFTH CENTURY DOWN TO THE PRESENT TIME.

IN TWO VOLUMES,

Embellished with *FORTY-FOUR ENGRAVINGS,*
From Drawings made on the Spot, of the Lake, River, and Mountain Scenery of Scotland.

By **ALEXANDER CAMPBELL.**

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OF the religious houses of St. Andrews, their founders, and chief benefactors and patrons, the few following particulars may suffice.

The CHAPEL OF ST. RULE, or Regulus, was the first religious house erected in St. Andrews, but at what period is uncertain *. The rectangular tower, which is 103 feet in height, and the walls of the chapel, are still pretty entire. These remains have been lately repaired.

The CATHEDRAL, the mouldering remains of which still strike the beholder with reverential awe, was founded by *Arnold* Bishop of St. Andrews, about the year 1162 †. It was one hundred and sixty years in building; and stood entire two hundred and forty years, till, in June 1559, it was demolished by a lawless mob, instigated to the pious labour by the sublime

* Tradition says, that it was built by Hergustus King of the Picts, near the end of the fourth century. See Martine's Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 182. Here were formerly two chapels adjoining this town, one on the west corresponding to one on the east. Ibid.

† Martine says, in the year 1159, in the time and presence of Malcolm IV. Vide Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 225.

eloquence of *John Knox*, displaying, in a sermon preached at *Crail*, in the neighbourhood of St. Andrews, the whoredom and blind idolatry of the holy Catholic church, the mother of saints. This cathedral was built in the form of a cross. Its dimensions were 370 feet in length: the breadth within the walls 65 feet. The appearance of the whole, when entire, must have been grand. Its lofty cupola and corresponding pinnacles, its vast roof covered with massy copper, and the elegant and magnificent structure of all its parts, could not fail of striking the beholder with reverential awe and pleasing terror. The venerable remains of this edifice in a very few years will be levelled with the dust; the texture of the stones being very soft and susceptible of decomposition by the atmosphere. The south wall of the nave is pretty entire*, so also is the east gable with its pinnacles: the west gable has suffered much; but one of its pinnacles is almost entire; its appearance is highly picturesque. This cathedral was founded about the middle of the twelfth century by Bishop Arnold, and finished by Bishop *Lamberton* in the year 1318†. It was accidentally burnt, in 1378, and repaired by *Sir Stephen Pai, Pay*, or *Pabedy*, the fifteenth prior of St. Andrews, in the time of Bishop *William Landells* (de Lanalis), who enjoyed the metropolitan see during the long period of forty-four years, and died 15th October 1385‡. It is said of this Bishop, that he obtained liberty from King *David*,

* The four easternmost windows that remain are different in their order from those nearer the west gable.

† The west end of the cathedral had been blown down by a tempest, and was rebuilt by Bishop William Wishart, who died on the 5th of June 1279. *Vide Keith*, p. 13.

‡ Fordun's *Scotichron.* lib. vi. cap. 45. See *Keith*, *Martine*, *Sibbald's State of Fifehire*, and *Slezer's Theatrum Scotiae*.

Bruce

Bruce for churchmen to nominate their heirs: as prior to this period the King (as in cases of bastardy and high treason) seized on their goods after their decease.

THE PRIORY OF ST. ANDREWS is said to have been founded by ROBERT Bishop of that see, according to Martine in the year 1120, but Spottiswood says 1122, in the reign of Alexander I., and dedicated to *St. Andrew* the Apostle. The monks, who were canons-regular of *St. Augustine*, were brought by the founder from the monastery of that order at Scone, anno 1140. David I., commonly called *St. David*, bestowed on it the priory of *Lochleven*, with the other possessions thereto belonging*. The priories thus joined gave great cause of offence to their original possessors the *Culdees*. After the *Culdees* became extinct, their possessions were variously disposed of. "The Prior of
" this church (says Spottiswood) wore in all public meetings, and
" in solemn services upon festival days, the pontifical ornaments,
" viz. a mitre, gloves, ring, cross, crozier, and sandals, or slippers,
" as the Bishops; and in Parliament had the precedence of all
" Abbots and Priors, by an act made in his favour by King
" James I. (anno 1452.)" As the Bishop of St. Andrews was the founder of its Priory, as well as chief donor of its revenues, arising principally out of the fruits and rents of his own diocese, the prior and canons composed the chapter by which the affairs of the see were regulated. This is an exception peculiar in its nature, and the only one that existed in Scotland†. In the year

* The cells or priories belonging to St. Andrews were *Lochleven*, *Portmeak*, *Monimusk*, the *Isle of May*, and *Pittenweem*." See Hope's *Minor Practicks*, Appendix, p. 416. *Vide supra*, p. 110. Keith's Catalogue, p. 7. 237, 238. and Martine's *Reliq. Divi Andr.* p. 163, and p. 171.

† By act of Parliament 1606. cap. vi. an exception is expressly made in favour of the Archbishop of St. Andrews. See Martine, p. 130.

1592, in the reign of James VI. an act passed by which this Priory was erected into a temporal lordship in favour of the *Duke of Lenox*. But in 1635, Charles I. restored the monastery with its revenues, privileges, and immunities to the Bishoprick*. The revenues of this Priory were pretty considerable: "they consisted (says Martine) of few dewties, fermes, silver, and victual (corn) for the teynd-dewties out of the Kirks pertaining there-
" to." He enumerates no less than twenty-five, amounting in money to 2,237l. 18s. 1d.

Wheat	-	38 chald.	1 boll.
Beare	-	132 —	7
Meale	-	114 —	3
Oates	-	151 —	10
Beans and pease	3 —	7	

besides houses and yards, capons, poultry, &c. ; and likewise 480 acres of land about St. Andrews, called the "Prior aikers, or Convent's Gleib †." When the Bishoprick and Priory were united by Charles I., their revenues, if computed according to the average prices of grain at present (1800), would be great indeed ; but even at the prices in 1796, they would amount to six thousand pounds sterling.

The BLACKFRIARS MONASTERY was founded in the year 1274 by Bishop *William Wisbart*, after his return from Lyons, whither he had been to attend a general council called by Gregory X. It was placed at the west-port of the street called the North-gate. Part of the garden wall is the only vestige of it now remaining. *James V.* annexed to it the convents of *Coupar*,

* Hope's Minor Pract. p. 108, 109.

† Hope's Minor Pract. p. 110. See also Martine's Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 171.
175.

and *St. Monans*, both in Fifeshire, at the request of *John Adamson*, professor of divinity, and provincial of the order in Scotland*.

The collegiate church of *ST. SALVATOR* was founded in the year 1458 by Bishop *James Kennedy*, son of Sir James Kennedy of Dundee, by *Mary* the daughter of *Robert III.* To this college were annexed the churches of *Cults*, *Kemback*, *Dinnino*, and *Kilmany*. The founder died on the 10th of May 1466, and was interred in a magnificent tomb, which he caused to be erected, at an expence, as is said, of ten thousand pounds sterling†, too great a sum in those days to be credited. The remains of this superb tomb are still pretty entire, and are of exquisite workmanship indeed. On opening this sepulchre some years ago, four silver maces were found, some of which were gold gilt; three of these were given to the sister universities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, and one is preserved among the curiosities of St. Andrews.

The convent of *OBSERVANTINES*, or *Gray Friars*, was also founded by Bishop James Kennedy, and afterwards finished by his successor *Patrick Graham* the first Archbishop, about the year 1478, and dedicated to *St. Francis*. In the year 1527, at the dawn of the Reformation, *Patrick Hamilton*, abbot of Ferne in Ross-shire, was condemned and burnt at the gate of St. Salvator's college for heresy. His chief accusers were, one *Alexander Campbell*, a Black-friar, and *John Tullidaff*, warden of this convent‡. Here also the celebrated mathematician John Wadlock, provincial of the order, a native of Dundee, who flourished in the reign of our fifth James, chiefly resided. "This con-

* See Pirscottie's Hist.

† Hope's Min. Pract. Keith's Appendix.

‡ See Pirscottie; Buchanan; and Keith, p. 215. 275.

“went (says Spottiswood) was likewise the novitiate of the order.” The remains of it are still to be seen on the south side of what is called the South-street, near the west end: its boundaries contain the Grammar-school, and school-house for English, writing, and accounts.

A convent of CARMELITES, or White-Friars, is said to have been settled in St. Andrews; but Spottiswood doubts this, as he finds no traces of such settlement any where save in Dempster’s *Apparatus ad Historiam Scotticam*, a work of no authority.

The collegiate church of KIRK-HEUGH, (situated formerly on a rock near the sea-shore called “*The Lady’s Craigs*,” but, the sea having done much damage to the building, it was judged proper to erect it on a safer spot, and an eminence near the harbour was chosen) was founded at a remote period, but by whom is uncertain. It had a provost and ten prebendaries, and belonged to the Culdees till the beginning of the fourteenth century, when this order was suppressed. It is said, that in this church was a statue of CONSTANTINE III.*, who relinquished his royal dignities, became a recluse of the order of Culdees, and resided in this place. The kirk of Seres in Fife belonged to Kirk-Heugh, and was united to the Bishopric of St. Andrews by act of Parliament, in 1621†.

The CASTLE OF ST. ANDREWS, or Bishop’s Palace, according to Martine, was first built by Roger Bishop of St. Andrews about the year 1200. “It was after that (continues this author) quite demolished by *Andrew Murray*, who took it from the

* Martine says, Constantine the Second. See Martine, p. 210. and Hope’s *Minor Pract.* p. 113.

† See Martine’s *Reliq. Divi Andr.* p. 215; also Sibbald’s *De Caledones et Vecturiones*, p. 136. and Fordun’s *Scotichronicon*.

“Inglishes

"Inglifhes who kept it for a garrison." The Bifhops of this fee in their charters call the caſtle of St. Andrews *Palatium noſtrum**. This palace was repaired (ſome ſay rebuilt †) in the year (perhaps) 1312; and again by Biſhop *Walter Trail*, who alſo built part of it. He died in 1401, and was buried in the cathedral of St. Andrews, near to the high altar ‡. The caſtle, or biſhop's palace, received ſuch repairs from time to time as were thought neceſſary; but now its remains are poor in the extreme. They are to be ſeen on a ridge of rocks within flood-mark on the north ſide of the cathedral. The ruins may ſtrike; but an aſſemblage of ideas ariſe in the mind of no grateful kind; and the recollection of former ſcenes is too painful for indulgence.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS comes next under review. The propriety and expediency of a national inſtitution for the inſtruction of youth in the elementary departments of erudition is felt and acknowledged by all thinking men and true lovers of their country. An aſſemblage of ſchools for this purpoſe is called an Univerſity. When men of approved abilities preſide in ſuch an inſtitution, the youth from all quarters naturally reſort to it for the benefit of inſtruction: and thus an univerſity becomes the chief ſource whence moral and political ſentiments derive their origin and bias. How eſſential in theſe reſpects to national proſperity and happineſs an union is, ſo far at leaſt as regards the great outlines of civil and political privileges, rights, and immunities, is abundantly obvious to every one. Beſides, the friendships and connections that young men are diſpoſed to form in early youth, while aſſociated in the purſuits of

* See Spottiſwood, p. 524. Keith, p. 286. and Unprinted Acts of Parliament, 1621.

† *Vide* Martine's Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 225, and 228; alſo Keith, p. 15.

‡ Keith, p. 17. Martine, p. 230.

knowledge, serve often to triturate, as it were, the rougher angles of keen-set prejudices, jealousies, and narrow views of the human intellect, as well as to develop the finer feelings of an enlarged understanding; and, above all, to awaken an interest in the fate of one another in after-life, that rarely fails of the happiest effects in the mutual intercourse of social order, and the welfare of the community at large. These considerations, in all probability, presented themselves in a manner so forcible to the founders of our first Scottish university, as powerfully urged them to make every exertion toward the establishment of so laudable an undertaking; and this too in an age when our nobility, and the better sort of our commoners, could hardly read or write. It was long after the dawn of learning ere its rising beams reached so far across our island as to enlighten its rugged wilds beyond the Tweed. At length, however, the day-spring shone out in full splendour, darting first into our cells and cloisters, and thence spread wider and more extended, soon after the revival of learning in Europe.

During the captivity of our first James, the best, wisest, and most accomplished of our Scottish princes, HENRY WARDLAW (of the family of *Torie* in Fifeshire), bishop of St. Andrews, (in the same year that Donald Lord of the Isles fought Alexander earl of Mar at the village of Harlaw, so famous in Scottish history,) opened schools at St. Andrews; which (says Buchanan) was effected by the cordial agreement of learned men, who made offers of their services as teachers, without reward or public salary *.—"The great end and motive of the erection" (says Martine) were, that the youth of this kingdom might

* Buchanan, lib. x. *Anno* 1411. See also Martine's *Reliq. Divi Andr.* p. 231. —and Keith's *Catalogue*, p. 18.

“ be educate in learning at home. He was assisted in this en-
 “ terprize by many learned men then in St. Andrews, especiallie
 “ James Biffet, prior and archdeacon of St. Andrews, Thomas
 “ Stewart, and others.” The writ of privilege is sealed with
 the chapter seal, and dated “ *Apud St. Andream in domo capituli
 ecclesiæ cathedralis penult. Feb. 1411.*” In the year 1413, a
 bull of confirmation was obtained from Benedict the Thirteenth,
 brought over by *Henry Ogilvie*, who had been sent to Arragon
 by bishop Wardlaw; “ who caused (says Martine) divinitie,
 “ laws, and all pairts of philosophie to be taught there, taking
 “ the example of his foundation from that of the universitie of
 “ Paris founded near the end of the eight centurie by Joannus
 “ Scotus, Claudius Clemens, Rhabanus Maurus, and Flaccus
 “ Alcuinus, all Scotsmen, sent by Achais to Charles the Great
 “ to conclude the famous league betwixt Scotland and France,
 “ to the mutual honour of both *.” The university of St. An-
 drews being thus founded, and professors for the various de-
 partments appointed, our *first James*, after his return from
 England greatly encouraged the infant seminary: and in order
 to promote the advancement of knowledge throughout the
 realm, he invited monks of the Franciscan † order, or Gray

* See University Register of St. Andrews, fol. 36.

Bishop Wardlaw died in April 1440. “ His memorie (says Martine) is sullied by
 the death of John Resby and Paul Craw, who were condemned and burnt for some
 opinions derogatorie to the papacie: yet he was an excellent man, and repressed many
 disorders that had crept in among the clergie, and was so extremely addicted to hospi-
 talitie, that being asked by his servants whom he would first name and set down to be
 entertained at his house, he answered Fife and Angus, meaning those two counties.”
 See Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 231.

† Martine, probably by mistake, calls them Carthusians, forgetting that this order
 observed a constant silence. They came to Scotland in 1429, and had but one house
 in that county, situated near Perth. See Hope's Minor Pract. p. 472.

Friars, from Cologne, who settled in various parts, particularly at Edinburgh, and taught divinity and philosophy till the Reformation; before which period the university of Edinburgh had no existence*.

But it was in the year 1444, more properly speaking, that the university of St. Andrews was erected into a permanent institution: and in the year 1458, *James Kennedy*, the grandson of *Robert III.* founded St. Salvator's college, and constructed buildings for the same at an expence, says *Pitcottie*, of ten thousand pounds sterling†. He also endowed it with ample revenues, from church lands chiefly, confirmed by Pope Pius II. by his bull dated Sept. 1458‡; and furnished it with costly utensils and ornaments, among others that of the figure of St. Salvator two cubits long. He likewise invited *John Aldmair* (or Athelmare), Doctor of Theology, from Paris, to be provost of the college. The founder of St. Salvator's college was undoubtedly the ornament of the age in which he flourished. Buchanan says, that his death was lamented by all good men, as if in him they had lost a common father§. He died on the 10th May 1466. After being embalmed, he was interred in that tomb in the chapel of St. Salvator's college which he had himself caused to be erected, and which still remains a singular monument of exquisite art, the progress of which seems to have been arrested by the untimely death of the pupil and kinsman of this distinguished prelate, *James the Third*, whose love for the fine arts, particularly architecture, placed him in peculiar situations that

* Arnot's Hist of Edinburgh, p. 386.

† *Vide* History of Scotland, p. 125.

‡ Martine's Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 234.

§ Buchanan, lib. xii. Keith, p. 19.

led eventually to the troubles of his reign, and his unhappy end*.

In the year 1512, while *Alexander Stuart*, natural son of *James IV.* who fell with his father in Flouden Field (A. D. 1513), filled the high office of archbishop, *John Hepburn*, prior of St. Andrews, founded the college of St. LEONARD: which was also largely endowed with revenues arising from church lands, before; and more particularly after the Reformation†. The celebrated historian and poet *George Buchanan*, in the year 1566, was chosen professor of St. Leonard's college, where he had studied under *Major*, whom he afterwards followed to France, and finished his education at what was formerly called the *Scots College*‡. In 1570 he relinquished his office to become the preceptor of *James VI.*

In the year 1552, archbishop *John Hamilton*, "who had a " fine genius for letters (says Keith), and went over into France " to pursue his studies," established the New College, as it is called, of St. MARY'S. This college, however, was begun by Bishop *James Beaton* towards the close of his life; and was continued by his nephew Cardinal Beaton, who "having demolished some old buildings, (says Martine) laid the foundation of a handsome church within the college; but his barbourous murder (continues the same author) occasioned the work to be abruptlie left off"—"He gave to the new colledge the kirk of

* *Vide* Drummond; Buchanan; Pitfcottie, &c.

† See Martine, p. 195. 238.

‡ In the year 1539, while Cardinal Beaton sought his life, George Buchanan, as he himself informs us, made his escape out of prison from St. Andrews. *Vide* Buch. lib. xiv.

Incubryock *." His successor Hamilton, as already remarked, finished this undertaking; and soon after was brought by his enemies to trial, condemned, and hanged at Stirling in April 1571 †.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS then consisted of three colleges, viz. *St. Salvator's*, *St. Leonard's*, and *St. Mary's*. Each of these colleges, before the Reformation, had professors of divinity, philosophy, and languages, &c. But under the direction of George Buchanan, anno 1597, *St. Mary's* college was appropriated to the study of divinity; hence it is called the *Divinity College*. In the year 1670, the magistrates of Perth gave a free gift to the celebrated *James Gregory* of 100l. Scots to encourage the establishment of a mathematical school in *St. Leonard's* college; and to assist in building an observatory ‡. In 1747, the colleges of *St. Salvator* and *St. Leonard* §, on a petition from the masters of both, were united by act of parliament; and are now joined in one society under the designation of *The United College*. But, notwithstanding, these colleges are independent of each other both as to discipline and revenue ¶. The *Senatus Academicus*, anciently, consisted of the chancellor, who was ~~supreme~~ magistrate; which office was held by the bishops of *St. Andrews*. Next in dignity was the rector, who was chosen annually by all the members of the university, that is, students who had obtained degrees, as well as professors ¶¶. The

* Martine's Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 242.

† Ibid.

‡ See Cant's Hist. of Perth, vol. ii. p. 136.

§ *St. Leonard's* college is now converted into a dancing-room, which is occupied occasionally by an itinerant company of players, but, from the poverty of the town, they meet with little encouragement, and seldom visit this ancient seat of the Muses.

¶ Stat. Acc. vol. xiii. p. 193.

¶¶ Arnot's Hist. of Edinburgh, p. 384. and the authorities therein quoted.

rector was *Judge-ordinary*, and heard and determined causes. An appeal lay from his determinations to the *Senatus Academicus*, composed of the chancellor and regents (or professors); and thence an appeal lay to the king. Sometimes, however, an action before the Court of Session was deemed competent. "The Court of Session (says the author of the Statistical Account of St. Andrews) have shewn themselves very *tender* in receiving appeals or *advocations*, from the rector, in matters of discipline over the students." The constitution of the university since the Reformation, and the Revolution, is somewhat different from what it was formerly. The university meeting, or *Senatus Academicus*, consists of the rector, (who is president of the meeting,) and the principals and professors of both colleges. The higher honours or degrees are conferred by the *Senatus Academicus* in council. On the recommendation of the *Faculty of Arts* in the united college, the degree of Master of Arts is conferred by the rector. The Dean and Faculty of Arts confer the degree of Bachelor*. The rector is chosen annually,

* In former times, the privilege and power of conferring academical honours were vested in the bishops, chancellors of the universities. Thus archbishop George Gladstones (a native of Dundee) "used always to preside (says Martine) at the public giving of degrees in the universities in St. Andrews (whereof *virtute officii* he was chancellor if he was upon the place). So great were his parts, learning, and readiness, that in anno 1605†, the plague breaking out in the town of St. Andrews, it is reported that the rector and all the university, in a morning about five o'clock, adrest him in bed for breaking up the teaching, and dissolving the scholars; and it is said he bade them be ready at the ringing of the bell, and that within two or three hours he appeared in public, discoursed upon the theme *de fato abortivo*, conferring the degrees himselfe, and so broke up the university for that year." Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 251. It is worthy of remark, that bishop Gladstones made choice of a medical subject; a proof that

† Keith says he was translated from Caithness to St. Andrews in 1606, and was not consecrated (archbishop) till the year 1610.

annually, on the first of March, by the *Comitia*, consisting, as anciently, of the members of the university. The constituent members continue as formerly to be classed, according to the place of their birth, into four nations or provinces; namely, *Fifans* (natives of Fifeshire), *Angusians* (natives of Angushire), *Lothians* (natives of the Lothians), and *Albans* (natives of the Highland districts, and such as belong not to the three former). This division is conformable to the old practice of the university of Paris, the model of all our Scottish universities, except that of Edinburgh. Each nation has a representative, or intrant, who collectively name the rector from among the professors of divinity, who are alone eligible to the office. The rector's robe of office is of purple, with a hood; the hood and borders of the robe being lined with crimson. In session time, the principals and professors wear black gowns. The students of the United College wear gowns of scarlet frieze without sleeves: but the students of divinity have no robes of distinction. The session, or term, continues six months and a half. There are chambers free in each college for the use of the students: and in the United College there is a table for such students as chuse

medicine was taught at St. Andrews early in the seventeenth century. "This archbishop (continues Martine) was called and brought thither at first by King James the Sixth from being minister at Ardberlett, of purpose to ballance and poize Mr. Andrew Melvill, and to guard the universitie and students against his principles, and to fence them from being tinged with his seditious and turbulent way; and many a hote bickering there was betwixt them thereupon." Ibid.

In 1583, soon after the university was erected by act of parliament in the reign of James VI. the magistrates of Edinburgh (patrons of the university) made choice of and invested Robert Rollock, then a professor in St. Salvator's college in St. Andrews, to be a professor in the New University of Edinburgh. See History of the College of Edin. MS. in the Advocates' Library.

to

to board themselves, at the low rate of 10l. for the term. Board, lodging, and instruction, including all charges, will not exceed sixteen or twenty pounds; while others can be accommodated in all these respects at a much lower rate*. “St. Andrews (says *Doctor Johnson*) seems to be a place eminently adapted to study and education, being situated in a populous yet cheap country, and exposing the minds and manners of young men neither to the levity nor the dissoluteness of a capital city, nor to the gross luxury of a town of commerce; places naturally unpropitious to learning: in the one, the desire of knowledge easily gives way to the love of pleasure; and the other is in danger of yielding to the love of money.” It is hardly possible to conceive a situation more eligible than that of this university. Besides cheapness of living, lodging, and instruction, it hath the advantage of quiet and comfort, the benefit of sea-bathing, a pure circulation of air, dry walks in all weathers, and free range for all kinds of exercise. Moreover, the students being immediately under the eye of the respective masters, principals, and rector, the moral conduct, as well as attention, diligence, and attainments of each individual, are strictly inquired after, and the smallest deviation held in check; while a laudable thirst of knowledge is kept up, and stimulated by a desire of esteem and distinction aided by due application and advancement in the various departments of elegant and useful acquirements†. The branches taught at the university
of

* See Stat. Acc. vol. xiii. p. 194.

† It may possibly be remarked, that the author of these sheets seems partial to St. Andrews as a seminary, the prosperity of which he has much at heart. He does not deny this. But when it is known that the university of Edinburgh was his *alma mater*, where

of St. Andrews are the Latin, Greek, and oriental languages; mathematics, logic, theology, church history, civil history, moral philosophy, natural philosophy, medicine, and natural history. The university library contains a collection of books more select than numerous; from twelve to fourteen thousand volumes, it is supposed; of a valuable part of which the late earl of Kinnoul, while vice-chancellor, made a present. The room is modern, and is, exclusive of the lobby, about seventy-four feet long by twenty-six feet broad, and twenty-four feet from the floor to the ceiling. The galleries are supported by Doric columns, and pilasters fluted. The graduations take place in this room; and in it the *Senatus Academicus* hold their meetings. The objects of natural history are, as yet, but few. A museum is much wanted.

The celebrated Naturalist B. Faujus Saint Fond visited St. Andrews in his tour through North Britain. He notices the bold encroachments made by the sea in the environs, as remarkable in no small degree. It certainly is so*; the coast is rocky and

where he began and ended his academic labours, his disinterestedness will not be suspected. He is wholly unknown to any of the professors of St. Andrews, and is acquainted with but very few of the students.

* The decomposition of the various beds of free stone, argillaceous schistus, and pyritous substances, is very remarkable. A little to the south-east of the castle are to be seen, at low water, vestiges of buildings some hundred yards from the shore. "It appears (says Douglas) from the writings of an estate in the neighbourhood, that, of old, the proprietor had the privilege of driving his cattle and goods on the east of the castle, which for some centuries past no man could have done." Douglas's Description of the East Coast of Scotland, p. 21. See also St. Fond's Travels through England and Scotland, and Sibbald's History of Fife, p. 62.

" In

and bold, rising in many places to a precipitous and perpendicular height of from thirty to forty feet above the sea *. Some insulated rocks appear off the shore, one of which is curiously perforated. It is seen at sea as a land-mark, and is marked in the charts "the *Buddo rock*." In the face of that shelving precipice on which the cathedral, the castle, St. Rule's chapel, and the town of St. Andrews, are built, several excavations are to be seen. This precipice is composed of alternate strata of free-stone and coal, with layers of argillaceous schistus, coloured with minute pit-coal particles. Some of the beds of schistus and free stone pebbles tinged with red are found, that, on being divided, seem to contain basaltic lava, which, it is conjectured, are volcanic productions, that, after having been rounded by the force and agitation of the waters, have sunk into a sandy substance, and in the course of ages become consolidated into the mass thus exposed. The fields in the environs of St. Andrews contain large blocks of basaltes of a fine black colour, very compact and pure in their texture. Although coal is in great abundance near this town, yet hitherto little has been done towards raising

" In my time (says Martine, who wrote in 1683) there lived people in St. Andrews who remembered to have seen play at the bowls upon the east and north sides of the castle of St. Andrews, which now the sea covers on every side: and I have heard it credible reported, that of old the heritors of Kinkell claimed and pretended to a privilege of watering all the bestial on their ground at Swilcanthburne, which runs at the west end of St. Andrews." Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 24.

* It may be proper to mention, that although, on the whole, St. Andrews is seldom visited with epidemical diseases, and the endemics are mild and rare, yet that phthical habits would find the keen easterly winds, not unfrequently accompanied with fogs, or *haars* as they are called, peculiarly deleterious, if not insupportable, may even fatal. These generally prevail in April and May.

any. Some proprietors in the neighbourhood have made trials, but without much profit or success. An English company too, a few years ago, made some efforts in order to ascertain to what extent their speculations might extend in the coal trade of this place, which proved unprofitable, and they desisted*.

The rocks all along the coast are covered with the common sea weed, but in such deep water as renders the cutting for either kelp or manure difficult. This is matter of serious regret, especially as so great a natural advantage, when turned to use, would become very profitable in manufactures, and in the cultivation of the soil. The surface of the country near St. Andrews rises in a gentle declivity from the shore; the soil of which is clay, loam, sand, &c. except that stretch of sandy soil called the Links, and along the east side, to the river Eden, which produces tolerable pasture for sheep; all the fields are kept in the most perfect state of improvement, and the crops are rich and abundant†. Of late, much has been done by various landholders in rearing plantations consisting of the usual varieties of forest-trees, and in particular the Scottish-fir, which thrives in almost every soil‡. In the heights of the parish are some mineral springs, but of small medicinal importance. The rivers Eden

* Stat. Acc. vol. xiii. p. 202.

† The crops consist of wheat, barley, oats, pease, beans, clover, rye grass, turnips, and potatoes, which are of an excellent quality. The improved mode of husbandry is universally followed.

‡ Although the immediate vicinity of St. Andrews appears almost totally denuded of trees; yet "anciently (says Sibbald) all around it was forest, and infested with boars; hence this wood was called *Curfus apri*, and these lands called *Byre-hill*, *Boar-hill*; as the learned Mr. Martin describes it in his *Reliquie Sancti Andree*. Vide Sibbald's Decad. et Vectur. p. 134.

(formerly

(formerly noticed) and Kenlowie run through this parish. They contain trout and salmon, but not in abundance; and at their conflux with the sea flounders are caught. Vast quantities of cockles, the razor fish, and muscles are picked up, carried to town, and sold at reasonable rates, which is of infinite benefit to the poorer classes of the citizens. Formerly, when haddocks were plentiful, they formed a principal part of the food of the poor; but of late herrings have appeared in such prodigious quantities that the haddocks are entirely lost sight of. This fishing has lately been prosecuted with ardour, success, and considerable profit. The rocks in the bay of St. Andrews abound with limpet, periwinkles, cockles, muscles, oysters, lobsters, and crabs. Near the rocky beach, red and grey cod of a small size, and in deeper water larger cod and ling are to be had in great plenty. In shallow water, where the bottom is sandy, abundance of halibut, turbot, flounders, soles, and skate are found. Much yet remains to be done in the fishery of this part of our east coast. Would it were set about quickly*. The quadrupeds are such as are common all along the coast. The birds and sea fowls are also such as frequent the Scottish shores.

* The salmon fishery on the river Eden lets at two hundred pounds per ann. There are at present (1800) only two boats, the crews consisting of six men each. By contract, the fishers could furnish any quantity of *ling* from eight pounds to two stones, at ten pence each; *skate* at thirty shillings per hundred (of six score); haddocks of all sizes at twenty shillings per hundred (of six score); *turbot*, *bonnet flukes*, at half a crown each, or fifteen pounds per hundred; crabs at fourpence per dozen; and lobsters at threepence each. A boat loaded with fish could be furnished to supply the Edinburgh market three times a week. Freight of the boat from St. Andrews to Leith, two pounds ten shillings; contract for any length of time. This information was obtained from James Gourley, fisherman, of St. Andrews, 9th October 1800, and deserves particular attention.

The city of St. Andrews was erected into a royal burgh, in the reign of David I., by means of *Robert*, an Englishman, the seventeenth Bishop of that see; and the first provost was a Fleming, called *Maynard*: this happened about the year 1140*. The privileges of this burgh were ratified and confirmed by Malcolm IV. †, *Roger* ‡, and *David* §, Bishops, and *Gladstone* ¶ Archbishop. But since the Union of England and Scotland this burgh is classed with Cupar, Perth, Forfar, and Dundee, (no less than five royal burghs!) for electing one member to the British House of Commons. The provost (mayor) is not obliged to reside in the city, and has the privilege of being re-elected as often as he pleases, or finds it convenient; but none of the other officers can continue above three years in succession. There are seven crafts bodies incorporated in this city; namely, smiths, wrights, bakers, tailors, shoe-makers, weavers, and butchers. In the spring of 1792, a company of manufacturers from Glasgow established a factory for tambouring muslins. There is at present but little trade here. A listlessness seems to pervade all ranks of people. The harbour is almost a ruin; and the access to, and departure from the port is neither easy, nor altogether free from danger ¶; the bay is much exposed to north and north-east winds, which blow keen and powerful on

* See Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 123. 224; and Sibbald's Decaledon. p. 135.

† A. D. 1160.

‡ A. D. 1200.

§ A. D. 1240.

¶ A. D. 1614. See Keith and Martine, *passim*.

¶ "If you would put into St. Andrews, cast anchor a mile from the town, where you shall find a good bottom and seven fathoms water." See Nicolas d'Anville's Survey of the Navigation round Scotland, p. 80.

the coast *. The opulence of this city might however revive, were proper and prompt means adopted for that purpose by spirited

* One of the fatal accidents that happen on the sand banks and rocky shore near St. Andrews, gave rise to a striking instance of courage and presence of mind, prompted by the finer and more exalted emotions of the soul, of which few more deserving of record occur in any age or country. On Friday the 5th of January 1800, the sloop Janet, of Macduff, was driven on the sands near St. Andrews. Every attempt to save the vessel by the town's men proving ineffectual, she went to pieces. The crew, worn out by fatigue, were unable to struggle with the waves any longer; and several fruitless attempts to save the hopeless sufferers but heightened their despair. JOHN HONEY, a student in the University of St. Andrews, fearless of all danger, plunged amidst the fury of the waves, seized the benumbed seamen one by one, and laid them in safety on the beach. The reward tendered to this humane intrepid youth was more honourable than lucrative. Soon after this event, the magistrates invited him to an elegant entertainment, and presented him with the freedom of the city, accompanied by an address suited to the occasion, of which the subjoined is a copy: "This hereditary ticket I have the honour of presenting to you, in the absence of the Right Hon. the EARL of KELLY, Lord Provost of this city. It is the only gift that this Corporation can bestow upon you, for your wonderful and unexampled exertions in rescuing from the jaws of death, the master and four seamen of the sloop the Janet, of Macduff, wrecked in these sands of St. Andrews, and who, but for your humane and unparalleled exertions, at the imminent hazard of your own life, must have inevitably perished."

(Signed)

CATHCART DEMPSTER, *Dean of Guild.*

See the Edinburgh Courant of the 9th Jan. 1800.

It frequently happens, that, in the calmest weather, sudden and unexpected blasts from the north-east agitate the sea along the coast near St. Andrews in so tremendous and terrible a manner, as to cause imminent peril to the poor fishermen before they are aware of their danger. A deplorable instance of this kind happened on the 4th of November 1765. Early in the morning the fishing boats went into deep water off the sand banks a small distance from the beach. The wind was hushed, and the waves scarcely agitated:—all was quiet and still.—The fishers dropped their lines. About seven in the morning, however, a sudden and unexpected change took place. To the north-east the clouds were observed to heave up, and to scowl and overcast the dawn. A storm was rapidly advancing. The fishermen instantly prepared to regain the beach. It was too late.—The wind is up.—Sudden and powerful it bursts along in squalls earling the waves, which foam in immense forms, and break furiously around the boats

spirited and enterprising speculators : for surely what once existed may be made to revive, and arouse into action and eventual vigour.

as they hasten to gain the nearest spot of safety; but in vain. Two of the boats, in their attempt to gain the beach, had got so close in, that the friends of the crews had begun to wade among the waves in order to assist their comrades; when one of them, raised on a huge impetuous ridge wave, was driven right over head of the boat next it. No sooner had the wave which carried it thus subsided, than that boat, and all who were in it, instantly disappeared, and were never more seen. The other boat was drawn ashore, and its crew saved. On this awful occasion three out of five boats were totally wrecked; and the other two so much damaged as to be rendered useless. Twelve men were lost; eleven of whom were married, and left widows and children to deplore their fate. The humane citizens of St. Andrews, however, gave immediate aid to the wretched surviving sufferers, and raised a permanent fund for their support. See Stat. Acc. vol. xiii. p. 199; 200.

Another remarkable instance of the sudden changes that take place on the east coast of Fife is commemorated in a rude design, engraved, and to be met with frequently among old furniture prints and paintings throughout Scotland.

On the 19th of August 1710, David Bruce and six other youths, the eldest of whom was but fifteen, in the habit of making short excursions on the water, went on that day in a boat from the harbour of St. Andrews. By accident, one of their oars fell overboard, and, being a considerable way at sea, they were unable to gain the land. In the course of the night, which became tempestuous, they were driven off the coast whence they had embarked. As soon as it was known that they were not returned, boats were dispatched next morning by day-break in quest of them; but, after a fruitless search, they returned without having seen or heard of the unfortunate young men. Meanwhile, though within sight of land, and with not a morsel to eat, three days passed in this deplorable condition without their being able to make the shore. A fourth day and night spent in the same way brought no relief. A fifth had nearly waited in the same forlorn state, when a fresh gale bore them away northward, and, changing suddenly to the east, they were driven close in on shore at the foot of a huge perpendicular rock, called Hern-heugh near Aberdeen, and about fifty miles north of St. Andrews. Exhausted by watchings, extreme hunger, and the alternate struggles of hope and despondency, the sixth day beheld them in existence; but that was all. Two of the youths, by exertions scarcely credible, clambered up the precipice. An old fisherman, observing all that passed, made every effort in his power to save the boat's crew; and, struck

vigour. It is confidently asserted by all our historians, that St. Andrews was of old a place of great resort, trade, and commerce *. A little west of the Prior's house, where the cloister stood (though not a vestige can now be discerned of either building, as they are entirely demolished, and the area converted into garden ground), "was of old (says Martine) the great mercat-place of that renowned fair of St. Andrews, called *Senzie* " *mercat*, held and kept for fifteen dayes, and beginning the " second week of Easter, whereunto resorted merchants from " most of the then trading kingdoms in Europe, trade in this " kingdome being then in its infancie †."

The population of St. Andrews as a parish, including town, suburbs, and country, amounts to 3950 souls; a number comparatively small, when it is considered that, besides the city, the parish extends ten miles in length by four in breadth ‡. It is said, that "the chief support of the city of St. Andrews is the university, and the conflux of strangers who here find excellent

struck with their hopeless condition, he made it known to a humane countryman named John Shepherd in the neighbourhood, who took them into his hut, and gave them all the comfort in his power. In the meantime he sent word to the magistrates of Aberdeen, who immediately dispatched medical assistance. Two of the seven young lads breathed their last: the remainder recovered slowly; and, as soon as they were in a condition to be removed, were sent home to their parents. The father of David Bruce, a respectable citizen of Edinburgh, presented John Shepherd with a piece of plate; and soon after caused to be engraved the plate already mentioned, commemorating the preservation of his son and the remarkable event.

* At present (1800) there is but one small vessel, called the *Dainty Davie*, which trades between Leith and St. Andrews, belonging to this harbour.

† Reliq. Divi Andr. p. 188.

‡ Stat. Acc. vol. xiii. p. 196. 206.

teachers

teachers in all the different branches*." It is also said, that "the greatest number of students at the university in any one year (was) one hundred and seventy-nine†;" and that the number of scholars at the grammar school is "from fifty to sixty," and at the English, writing, and arithmetic schools, one hundred and twenty: making the gross number of scholars and students at the utmost three hundred and fifty-nine. Now, how it should happen that so inconsiderable an accession, and this too for little more than one half of the year, can throw so much money into the city of St. Andrews, is somewhat difficult of comprehension. However, what is said with regard to the abilities of the professors, and public and private teachers, may cordially be admitted, as true in the fullest extent. It seems, a curious mode is still kept up in several parts of the country of obtaining money, by a competition in bribing the masters for the regal honours of the school at Candle-mass yearly. The King, that is, he who buys his crown at the dearest rate, exercises the royal privilege of remission of punishments, and demands occasionally a holiday in the duration of his reign, which lasts only forty days from his accession to the throne till the hour of his abdication. Besides the established schools, which are patronized by the magistrates, there are private charity schools, and schools for needle-work, &c. The people of St. Andrews are kind, hospitable, and friendly to strangers, and to one another. They are, on the whole, industrious, and inclined to sobriety. As usual in almost every town throughout Scotland, there are various sectaries here: among others, a few of the Episcopal persuasion, Burghers, Antiburghers, &c.

* Ibid. p. 192.

† Ibid.

Among the few curiosities shewn to strangers are some silver arrows with medals appended, on which are the names, with suitable inscriptions, of the victors in the ancient art of archery, at one period so indispensable over the whole island. Mr. Pennant has noticed this in his Scotch Tour, and has given an extract from an act of parliament, James II. c. 65.; to which may be added the following extract from *Regiam Majestatem, the laws and constitution of Scotland*. "Archarie is commanded to be used by all men, being of twelf years of age, vnder paine of ane wedder, Jac. I. parl. i. c. 18. Or vnder paine of fourtie shillings, Jac. IV. parl. 2. c. 32. Jac. II. parl. 14. c. 65." In the same chapter are the following passages, which refer to the antiquity and nature of our common pastimes. "Na man sould play at the golfe, Jac. II. parl. 14. c. 65. Nor at the futball vnder paine of fiftie shillings, Jac. I. parl. 1. c. 17. Jac. II. parl. 14. c. 65. Because they are esteemed to be unprofitable sports for the common gude of the realme, and defence thereof, Jac. IV. parl. 3. c. 32.*" *Golff* continues the favourite diversion of North Britons. The links of St. Andrews are well adapted for this purpose: and, it must be confessed, a more healthful exercise hardly exists, or can possibly be invented †. Foot-ball is in use; and a game of very remote antiquity is still prevalent in many parts of the north, namely *shinty*, a species of diversion extremely well adapted to the keen enterprizing genius of the Scottish highlander particularly.

* *Vide* Reg. Majest. p. 140. Finlayson's edit. Scottish translat. Edin. 1609.

† A poem entitled "Golf" was composed and published by an ingenious man of the name of Mathison, about the year 1743. It possesses considerable merit in the mock-heroic. See Campbell's Introduction to the History of Poetry in Scotland, p. 232.

On leaving St. Andrews* we pass close under the ancient wall which enclosed the cathedral, priory, and grounds adjacent; and, crossing the small river *Kinness* by a bridge of one arch, we ascend an eminence, near the summit of which a fine prospect of the city and ample bay of St. Andrews, with a vast extent of country, is seen at one glance of the eye †.

Keeping the coast road to the left, we soon fall in with another rivulet called the water of *Kenlay*, on which the ruins of the castellet of *Inchmurtach* (belonging in former times to the archbishops of St. Andrews) are to be seen. "The books of *Paisly* and *Scone* say, that 14 May 1363, King David II. held a parliament here. South of *Inchmurtach*, on a higher ground, are some obelisks of rough stones: which the great antiquary Mr. *Maul* (of Panmure) thinks are monuments of some great men killed in the battle with the *Danes*. Betwixt this and St. Andrews, and a mile be East of it, on the sea, is *Kinkell*, so called from the chapel of *St. Anne*, built here by *Kellach* bishop of St. Andrews about anno 857 ‡."

In passing along the sea-coast, the state of agriculture seems on as respectable a footing as can reasonably be expected where nature has denied richness of soil, and where other circumstances

* There are two hill-roads leading from St. Andrews to the south-east; one to *Leven*, and the other to *Anstruther*: these roads, however, are not only hilly, but, being kept in very bad order, are hardly fit for travellers either on foot or on horse-back.

† The stretch of coast, from the swampy flats of *Leuchars* immediately north west of St. Andrews, to *Red-head*, a remarkable head-land seen far to the northward, together with the *Sidla* hills, towering above the estuary of the *Tay*, which from this station are distinctly seen, form the magnificent back-ground to the prospect here pointed out.

‡ *Vide* Sibbald's History of Fifeshire, p. 134.



Sketches on the Spot by Mr. Campbell

Robert Smith

St. Andrews from the East

London: Published March 1, 1809, by Alfred Longman & Sons, Paternoster Row.

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are unfavourable to improvement. But nothing can prove more hurtful to agricultural speculations than short leases and injudicious restrictions with respect to the mode of culture and rotation of cropping lands in tillage. An exception (worthy of notice) to the pernicious mode which at present but too universally obtains in letting farms on lease, may not appear altogether out of place. A landholder in the parish of Cameron *, through which we now pass, who observes the following rules in letting his farms on a new contract, made the subjoined communication at the request of the writer of these pages. "He wishes to treat for a new lease with the old tenant some *considerable* time before the expiry of the then lease, and if *possible* to prefer the old tenant to any other person. The tenant must find sufficient caution for the punctual payment of his rent (no arrears permitted); but the tenant may have a clause in his lease, that upon giving one year's warning to the proprietor of the soil, and the land found not to be scourged, the tenant to be at full liberty to quit the farm (proprietor always bound). He chooses to give proper length of years to encourage the tenant to improve, and do himself and family justice. He has let leases of nineteen years, twenty-one years, twenty-six years, and one of fifty-seven years. The tenant may plant what is fit for plantation, and have half the trees for his trouble; the trees to be valued by two persons, one chosen by tenant, the other by proprietor; and the tenant obliged to receive one half of the trees or the price fixt, as above, in the option of the proprietor. No

* Doctor Alexander Turnbull.

KINGSBARNs.

“bondages, or carriages, grassums (fines), or any mark of
“servitude or slavery suffered by the lessees. At the expiry of
“the lease, should the old tenant not agree for a new lease, he
“is to remove peaceably without any legal action; or pay
“double of his former rent for each year he remains after the
“expiry. His terms of payment half-yearly; at Candlemas
“and Lammas; or Whitsunday and Martinmas, as the tenant
“pleases.” Such are the terms on which this truly philan-
thropic landholder chooses to treat with his tenants; and it may
be farther added, that during the forty years that he has en-
joyed his property, he has exercised with due moderation and
mildness all the relative duties of a benevolent man, tender and
mindful of the rights and privileges of his fellow-citizens.

Proceeding along the east coast within sight of the sea, we
frequently catch glimpses of the creeks, bays, and promontories,
which please in variety and succession. We next pass
through the village of Kingsbarns, so called, says tradition,
from King John (Baliol) having made a neighbouring castle
(the remains of which are still pointed out on the beach) his
place of residence: and here it is said were his barns, or store-
houses; hence the name of the village Kingsbarns*. A mine-
ral spring, much resorted to by valetudinarians thirty or forty
years ago, is situated in the immediate neighbourhood of Kings-
barns: it was chiefly employed for the purpose of affording
water for a corn-mill; and its virtues in this way cannot fail.
The lobster-fishing is often productive in this place, for which
London is found a ready market: at present, however, there
are but few caught.

* See Sibbald's History of Elfe, p. 66.

We pass on the left *Cambo*, on the right *Kippo*, and soon after on the left Randerston, Wolmerston, and Balcomie. About a mile further on, we pass through *Crail*, an ancient royal burgh. The whole stretch of country from St. Andrews to Crail is tolerably fruitful in corn, and the other crops usually raised in these parts.

So early as the ninth century mention is made of Crail* as a place of some consequence. It was erected into a royal burgh in the reign of *Robert the Bruce*, and its charter was renewed and confirmed, with additional grants and privileges, by *Robert II.* *Queen Mary*, *James VI.* and *Charles I.* † In conjunction with four neighbouring burghs, it sends a representative to parliament ‡. About a century ago Crail was one of the principal harbours whence boats were fitted out and manned for the herring fishery of the east coast of Scotland; from which source its former opulence in a great measure was derived. Till lately, however, this source of wealth seemed to have entirely left its accustomed channels; of consequence, Crail fell into decay; its harbour became ruinous and deserted; and, its inhabitants losing their accustomed occupations, a gradual listlessness benumbing every desire to better their condition, proved eventually the cause of that extreme poverty which Crail in its aspect exhibits to the eye of the traveller §. But, as herrings have again

* Called in old writs *Carraile*, *Caryle*, and *Carle*. See *Stat. Acc.* vol. ix. p. 443.

† *Ibid.*

‡ *Viz.* *Easter* and *Wester Anstruther*, *Kilrenny*, and *Pittenweem*.

§ It appears from *Sibbald's History of Fifeshire*, that towards the latter end of the seventeenth century, when the herring fishery (which commenced at *Lammas*) was on the east coast of *Fife*, about eighty fishing-boats belonged to *Crail*; and the inhabitants furnished 200 boats with nets, &c. which came from different parts of the north to the *Frith of Forth*.

visited our east coast, and haddocks also have appeared in abundance; these, together with the cod, skate, and lobster fishing, may very soon raise this town to its former opulence and rank among the burghs of the north shores of the Frith of Forth. Crail is situated in what is called the East Nook of Fife*. The appearance on all sides is flat, and denuded of trees, or brushwood: even hedges are reared with difficulty. The soil is various; in some parts remarkably rich, deep, and fertile; in others, poor in the extreme, thin, wet, and steril. The improved mode of agriculture, however, and the farmers availing themselves of the sea weeds cast on the beach in great abundance, which they use as manure together with lime and dung, judiciously mixed and managed, cause plentiful crops of wheat, barley, oats, beans, pease, turnips, and potatoes to grow in every corner of the parish. The farmers frequently let to the poor, and to the tradespeople, small portions of land for planting potatoes. This serves the double purpose of utility and recreation, as at their leisure hours their attention is devoted to dressing and keeping their several small lots clean and in proper order. There are seven incorporated trades in Crail; but no manufactory of cotton, flax, or wool is established either in the town or its neighbourhood. A want of running water, without which little can be done, may be a hindrance. The population, including the whole parish, is estimated at 1710 souls. It is conjectured that Crail was once the seat of a priory; but it is not

* The promontory called Fifeness lies nearly opposite to the celebrated cape known by the name of St. Abb's-head. In passing Fifeness there is a dangerous part denominated Carwick, which lies east-north-east from the coast: in order to avoid it, the steeple of Crail must be kept in view. See "The Navigation of James V. round Scotland," p. 80.

mentioned in Spottiswood's list of religious houses. The parish church * was, however, erected into a "collegiate church in the year 1517, for a provost, a sacrist, or treasurer, and ten prebendaries †," at the desire of the priores of Haddington: before which period the tithes of this parish belonged to the convent of Benedictine nuns at Haddington ‡. On the site of an old castle noticed in Sibbald's history of Fife, where, it is said, David I. frequently resided, a gentleman of the neighbourhood of Crail has erected a fanciful building in form of a tower, with small cannon planted round it, which at sea has no unpleasant appearance.

In the immediate vicinity of Crail the antiquary is directed to a spot called the *Dane's Dike*, said to be the remains of a bulwark raised by the Danes in 874, after their defeat by the Scots at the Water of Leven, in order to cover their retreat and afford them an opportunity to escape on board their ships, which lay off Fife-Nefs. Near this fortification, too, is shewn the cave in which, it is said, the Danes put to death the Scottish king, *Constantine*, whom they had taken prisoner §. Colonel Moncrief of the Engineers, whose untimely fall in the late expedition to Holland was so generally lamented, received the first rudiments of his education at Crail, of which

* It was in this identical church that John Knox preached (June 1559) the famous seditious sermon, which inspired his hearers with a thirst of vengeance against the wolves in sheep's clothing, and their well-stored dens; to demolish which the pious zealots took their departure, and with incredible fury soon accomplished their purpose, beginning with St. Andrews, and so on. Archbishop Sharp was minister of Crail till he was consecrated.

† See Hope's *Minor Pract.* p. 520. Sibbald says, nine prebends only. *Vide his History of Fifehire*, p. 133.

‡ See Hope's *Minor Pract.* p. 514. also Keith.

§ *Vide Buchanan*, lib. vi. and Sibbald's *History of Fifehire*, p. 133.

parish

parish he was a native. From the sea-shore at this place a grand prospect of the Frith of Forth, the Bodotria of Tacitus, is commanded: the whole coast of East Lothian, the fine conical eminence called *North Berwick Law*, rising in the midst; the insulated rock, formerly a state prison, called *The Bass*: and nearer to the eye, and within six miles of the station here pointed out, the *Isle of May*, formerly the seat of a small convent belonging to the Augustine monks of Reading in Yorkshire*: looking up the Frith, the bold rocky shore of Fife, as far as the eye can discern; and in the extreme distance, the chain of hills that run across from the Forth to the Clyde, behind which the Grampian mountains rear their lofty summits, are indistinctly floating on the view.

Proceeding along the coast, at the distance of three miles from Crail, we pass through the town of *Kilrenny*†, one of the royal burghs now joined with the former. About a mile onwards, we pass through another of our royal burghs, attached likewise to Crail, called *Easter Anstruther*. Immediately ad-

* The cell of the Benedictines of Reading was founded by the pious King David I. of Scotland, and dedicated to All Saints, but afterwards to St. Adrian. "It was of old (says Spottiswood) much frequented by barren women, who went thither in pilgrimage." It should seem, by this, that the monks of Reading were not ineffectual in their pious labours, else fewer pilgrimages would have been made to the Isle of May. But the light of the gospel has long since been extinguished in this insulated spot; and a light-house, in modern times not less useful, substituted in its place. In January 1791, the keeper (George Anderson), his wife, and five children, were found dead in the light-house. An infant, that was taken from the breast of the dead mother, is brought up under the protection of Miss Scott, to whom the building belongs.

† Kilrenny, or *Kilminian*, so named from *St. Ninian*, one of *St. Regulus's* companions. See Sibbald's *Hist. of Fife*, p. 132. "The lands of Anstruther (says Sibbald) have a stately house here overlooking the town." Now, this *stately house* is occupied partly as a stable, and partly by a number of poor families.

joining to this latter burgh is that of *Wester Anstruther*. An inconsiderable stream is all that marks the bounds of each of these burghs royal. A harbour, called *Cellar Dykes*, is immediately connected with these burghs, the shipping of which is hardly worth mentioning*.

About a mile farther on, we pass through the town of *Pittenweem*, another of our royal burghs: which was erected in the reign of James V. anno 1547. In Pittenweem, a cell or priory, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and belonging to St. Andrews, was founded: but soon after the Reformation it was secularized, and in 1609 was erected into the lordship of Pittenweem, and *Frederick Stuart* raised to that dignity; who dying (says Spottiswood) "without male issue, the honour became extinct." Near the ruins of this priory is the cave or *weem* †, consisting of two spacious apartments, from which there was formerly a passage, that connected this cave with the cells of the priory. Doctor Douglas, the present bishop of Salisbury, well known for his learned and ingenious refutation of his countryman *Lauder's* attack on Milton, is a native of this parish.

The small town of St. Manoch, or Monance, is the next through which we pass. It lies close in upon the sea-shore. Formerly, it was a considerable fishing station; but was more celebrated for its monastery of Dominicans, or Black Friars; the remains of which are still pretty entire. These ruins appear situated on a rock boldly advanced into the sea. "The chapel" (says Spottiswood) was founded by King David II. upon the 3d "of April in the fortieth year of his reign, and was served by a

* Hope's Min. Pract. p. 418.

† Stat. Acc. vol. iv. p. 376.

“ hermit*.” “ This chapel (continues this author), which was a
 “ large and stately building of hewn stone, in form of a cross,
 “ with a steeple in the centre, was given to the Black Friars
 “ by King James III. at the solicitation of friar John Muir,
 “ vicar then of that order amongst us, and afterwards first pro-
 “ vincial of Scotland, notwithstanding the opposition he met
 “ with from the English, who until then were united into one
 “ province with us: but there being at that time seventeen
 “ convents of this order amongst us, it was thought a number
 “ sufficient to make Scotland a province by itself. The walls
 “ of the south and north branches of the monastery are still
 “ standing, but want the roofs; and the east end and steeple
 “ serve for a church to the people of the parish of Abercromby†.”

The poor of this parish experienced, in common with the rest of Scotland, in the year 1782, the severities caused by a scarcity of corn. The summer was cold and wet, the harvest late; and frost and snow coming on before the crops were cut down, occasioned calamity which threatened, like the present (1800), a degree of famine but seldom known. Oatmeal rose to one shilling and three-pence a peck. The poor of St. Monance were unable to purchase any at that advanced price; but the timely humanity of Sir Robert Anstruther relieved them from impending wretchedness, by furnishing meal and selling it to the poor at three-pence below the then current price‡: an example worthy of imitation, as it is worthy of record.

* See Hope's Min. Pract. p. 492.

† Ibid. p. 493. This continues still the place of worship. See Sibbald's Hist. of Fife, p. 130.

‡ In March 1800, oatmeal sold at three shillings and four-pence per peck in the Edinburgh market! It was never known to be at so high a rate since prior to the accession of James VI. to the throne of England. See Birrel's Diary.

One of the prominent objects observable among the inland heights that rise immediately to the north of *St. Monance*, is, the conical eminence called *Kellie-law*; below which, *Kellie*, the family residence of the Earls of Kelly, is situated *. The late *Thomas Alexander*, Earl of Kelly, will be long remembered for his musical talents, as well as for his fascinating powers of conviviality. His late brother the *Hon. Andrew Erskine* too, as a votary of the muses, made no inconsiderable figure among the literati of Scotland †: and it will be remembered with sentiments of regard, that these brothers proved worthy of so distinguished an ancestor as the illustrious founder of our Edinburgh school of medicine, the friend of *Bellini*, the preceptor of *Boerhaave* and *Mead*,—*Archibald Pitcairn*, M. D.

At a small distance to the eastward of *Kelly*, the church and village of *Carnbie* are situated. This parish church belonged

* "The first of this family (Kelly) was Sir Thomas Erskine, son to the Earl of Mar, who, with Sir John Ramsay, rescued King James VI. from Gowrie's conspiracy, anno 1600." *Vide* Sibbald's History of Fifeshire, p. 137.

† Several of the juvenile pieces of the Hon. Andrew Erskine are to be found in Donaldson's Collection of Poems, printed at Edinburgh, 1764. In the year 1763, "Letters between the Hon. Andrew Erskine and James Boswell, Esq." (the friend and biographer of Dr. Samuel Johnson) were "printed at London by Samuel Chandler, for W. Flexney, near Gray's Inn, Holborn," in which were interspersed pieces of poetry by both these gentlemen. This volume is seldom to be met with. Mr. Erskine, published, without date, "Town Eclogues," about the year 1774 it is believed. He was also the author of a small after-piece, intitled, "She's not him, and She's not her," printed at Edinburgh by Donaldson and Reid, for Alexander Donaldson, 1764. Dr. Pitcairn, the grandfather of our poet, was also a dramatic writer (witness, "The Assembly, or Scot's Reformation, a comedy," written in 1691); and his Latin poems are well known; but as a mathematician and professor of medicine he ranked among the first of his time. See Webster's Life of Pitcairn, and Campbell's History of Poetry in Scotland.

formerly to the *Abbey of Dunfermline**. Among the natives of the parish of *Carnbie* who deserve particular notice, as men of established respectability in their several departments of useful industry, are, *Joseph Pitcairn*, *James Taylor*, and *Archibald Constable*: to the latter of whom, the writer of these pages is much indebted for the perusal, on this, as well as former occasions, of several rare and valuable books on subjects relative to antiquities, and Scottish literature.

About a mile west of St. Monance, we pass through the town of Ely, the landed property around which, except a single farm, belongs to Sir John Anstruther, Bart. On the north side of Ely the country is beautiful. On the south along the sea-shore, it is bare, but by no means barren. There is a harbour, than which, for easy access, safety, and depth of water, few better are to be found on the whole coast of Fife. It is, however, much neglected, and in a decayed condition. *Macduff's cave*†, a magnificent excavation in the face of *Kincraig rocks* fronting the sea, near Ely, is worth visiting; it lies about a quarter of a mile to the westward, at a place called *Earl's ferry*‡, from the circumstance,

* See Sibbald's History of Fifeshire, p. 137. "Near to this," (viz. Carnbie,) says this author, "in a lower ground, is Pitcorthie, remarkable for being the birth-place of the famous Hay, Earl of Carlisle, born of a son of Megginsh in Angus, and of the Dowager of Barclay, laird of Innergallie, she having these lands in jointure." For an account of James Hay, Earl of Carlisle, see Pennant's Tour in Scotland, vol. iii. p. 84.

† This cave is of the stupendous height of 160 feet, and penetrates the solid rock about 200 feet. — Besides Macduff's cave, there are two others, called Hall-cave and the Devil's cave. See Sibbald's History of Fifeshire, p. 128.

‡ Earlsferry is another of our wretched burghs-royal. Its charter was renewed by James VI. in the year 1589, the original charter being lost. Since the union, its right of

circumstance, as it is said, of Macduff, who had made the cave above noticed his place of refuge, on being apprized of the Usurper Macbeth's intention to seize and put him to death, having made his escape thence to the other side of the Frith of Forth, and landed at North-Berwick; whence he proceeded directly to the murdered King's son Malcolm, then in England. Hence, tradition mentions, originated a peculiar privilege which criminals claim, namely, that of being ferried over instantly when demanded, without any one being suffered to pursue them till half over the Frith, in their passage to the other side; Macduff having obtained this privilege from the King, in commemoration of his escape from the blood-thirsty Usurper*. "This, it is said, was claimed, and granted, in the case of Carnegie, and Douglas of Finhaven†. In the museum of the Scotch Antiquarian Society are some bones of a large size, that were taken from a tumulus near *Earl's ferry*, which was opened some years ago. The late professor of chemistry in the university of Edinburgh, Dr. Joseph Black, a name as immortal as it is dear to science (it is his pupil that writes—who will be pardoned for thus expressing himself), was in possession of some beautiful specimens of the minerals of this part of the coast of Fife, of which some rubies of a rich texture and high value constituted the chief.

The traveller is frequently struck with the many delightful country seats scattered along the coast as he proceeds westward.

of election is also lost. "The anxiety of our ancestors (says Robertson) to obtain an exemption was almost equal to the eagerness with which our contemporaries solicit admission into Parliament." Robertson's *Hist. of Scotland*.

* Stat. Acc. vol. xvii. p. 541.

† Ibid. vol. ix. p. 292.

Among

Among the sweetly-varied scenes which in succession and detail may arrest notice, are the family residences of Balhousie, Balcaskie, Balcorma, Balcarras, each commanding extensive prospects of the Frith of Forth and country adjacent; and of Kilconquhar, Kincraig, Lathallan, Loanhead, Newton, Balchristie, Grange, and the castle of *Risas*; the latter situated on an eminence. It should seem, by what remains of a very wide ditch which surrounds the castle, that it was intended as a strong hold in former times. It belonged anciently to the name of *Weemys* *.

But the most pleasing of all the prospects to be seen on the north shores of the Frith of Forth, is that which the ample and finely formed bay of Largo presents to the eye accustomed to repose on picturesque beauty. The liveliest imagination can hardly create more charming scenes than are to be met with in traversing the whole extent of this bay. A sea shore almost semicircular, and ten miles in length, studded with fishing towns, hamlets, farm-houses, and country seats; behind these, cultivated fields, skirted with hedge-rows and thriving plantations, together with gentle acclivities swelling into the surrounding heights, among which *Largo Law* appears pre-eminent, are objects interesting in the highest degree. This hill, whose form is nearly conical, rises to the height of about eight hundred feet above the level of the Frith. Nearly opposite to Largo Law, is *North-Berwick Law* in East Lothian, a conical hill, on which, it is said, *Lows*, i. e. blazes, or flames, were wont to be lit, and were answered on the summit of Largo Law, as signals on any unexpected appearance of an enemy's fleet. Agriculture is in the highest state of improvement along the whole extent of Largo

* See Sibbald's *Hist. of Fife*, p. 137.

bay.



Bay of Lough

London, Published March 1 1848, by Messrs. Longman & Co. 15, Abchurch Lane

THE
PUB
TIL

bay. The fisheries have much declined of late years; and of consequence the fishermen have emigrated.

But little trade is carried on in the town of *Lower Largo**; notwithstanding the bay here forms a safe road for shipping, being well sheltered, and of sufficient depth to admit vessels of considerable burthen. The principal manufactures in *Upper Largo*, are checks, linens, and green coarse linen. One of the weavers of this place, *John Selkirk*, the grand-nephew of *Alexander Selkirk*, (whose life and adventures are so ingeniously but fabulously related by the celebrated *Daniel de Foe*, under the feigned name of *Robinson Crusoe*;) with pious regard to the memory of his kinsman, preserves the chest and musket which the latter had with him in the island of *Juan Fernandez*, on which he was left as a punishment for mutiny. Alexander Selkirk (Robinson Crusoe) was born at Largo in the year 1676. Early accustomed to a sea-faring life, he acquired sufficient knowledge of his profession; as it appears that in the year 1703 he sailed as master of the *Cinque Port*, Captain Stradling, on a cruize to the South Seas; where, it should seem, a mutiny breaking out among the crew, in which *Selkirk* was a chief

* Largo was anciently a part of the Earl of Fife's estate. The lands of Largo were given by James III., anno 1482, to Sir Andrew Wood, to keep the ship in which he fought the English in repair.—See Sibbald's Fife, p. 129. These lands remained in the family of Wood till Charles the First's time. After the restoration, Largo passed into the hands of the ancestor of the present proprietor, Sir Alexander Durham, Lord-lyon of Scotland.—Ibid. The church of Largo belonged formerly to the Nunnery of *North-Berwick*. An hospital for fifteen old men was founded by John Wood, Esquire, a cadet of the ancient family of Largo, who also built and endowed a school at *Newburn*, a little to the east of Largo in the reign of Charles II. Newburn belonged to the abbey of Dunfermline. The village immediately adjoining to Newburgh, *Balsbristle*, paid tithes to the *Culdees* before the suppression of that order; and afterwards to the priorie of St. Andrews. Ibid. p. 136.

actor,

actor, instead of suffering the punishment usually inflicted in such cases, he was put on shore on a desolate island, in which he passed four years and four months, in the most hopeless solitude that ever man experienced. The only companions of his seclusion from human society, were wild cats and a few goats, which he had tamed, fed, and familiarized in such a manner, as at last to bring them to share in his pastime; and this, together with hunting and devotion, filled up the intervals unoccupied by sleep. He was often heard to mention the horror he felt at the idea that, when dead, the very cats, which he had reared, and fed with such tender care, would greedily devour his body. Having spent the time before specified in this forlorn condition, he was at last relieved, and brought to England by Captain *Woods Rogers*; and soon after returned to his native place. Selkirk having communicated to *De Foe* many of the particulars related in the history and adventures of the fictitious Robinson Crusoe, that ingenious writer, mixing a few real occurrences with fable, produced the pleasing and instructive performance alluded to*.

Soldiers very seldom become churchmen north of the Tweed. A living instance, however, (a leading member of the Missionary Society,) is considered by some as a phenomenon in these degenerate times†. Contemporary with *Oliver Cromwell*, in whose

* See Stat. Acc. vol. iv. p. 544.

† Every deviation from the present established order of things is looked on with a jealous eye; hence, the Missionary Society, even in its infancy, has challenged the attention of the vigilant supporters of *existing circumstances*. It is curious to observe how a similar institution originated and grew into consequence, under the kind and protecting arm of power, soon after the glorious deliverance of this nation by the *Prince of Orange* and his Dutch soldiers. In the year 1678, religious societies were first founded

whose days many of the military became divines,) *James Durham*, a native of the parish of Largo, (brother to Sir Alexander Durham of Largo,) who had been in his early youth a captain of dragoons, took a *serious turn*, and afterwards, commencing speaker of the gospel, was appointed one of the ministers of the high church of Glasgow *. While in the exercise of his duty as a divine, it is said, he had an opportunity of publicly avowing, in the presence of Cromwell himself, his disapprobation of the measures pursued by the Protector. Being afterwards reprimanded for his freedom and temerity by that stern Usurper, he answered with becoming dignity and calmness, that while in the chair of verity, he felt it to be a duty incumbent on him to declare the honest feelings and conviction of his mind with-

founded by a few serious young men (says Chamberlayne) of the communion of the church of England " Soon after, "*societies for reformation of manners*" were established in various parts of England. In the year 1701, "*The Society for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts*" was instituted under the auspices of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and the Bishop of London; and, before that period, in the year 1698, the "*Society for propagating Christian Knowledge*;" which society, in the year 1710, "engaged themselves to assist the Protestant Missionaries at Tranquebar on the Coromandel coast in the East Indies." See Chamberlayne's *Present State of Great Britain*, book iii. part 1.

* The high church, or cathedral of Glasgow. The last Bishop of Glasgow but one, viz. Alexander Cairncross, representative of the family of Cairncross of Cairnmissie, was at one time so low in means, as to be obliged to take himself to manual labour, and follow for a considerable time the occupation of a dyer in the Canongate, Edinburgh; and "with such success (says Bishop Keith), that he was enabled to acquire some part of the estate which had pertained to his ancestors." By the recommendation of the Duke of Queensberry, he was first promoted to the see of Brechin, and in the year 1684 to that of Glasgow. After the revolution, he was translated, in 1693, to Raphoe in Ireland; where he died anno 1701, and left a considerable estate to his nephew George Home, of Whitfield. Keith, p. 160.

out regard to consequences, or respect to earthly powers; more especially as he had been able to do so before the invader himself of his native country.

A personage not less notable than either of the two above-mentioned natives of the parish of Largo, was *Sir Andrew Wood*, the famous Scottish admiral under our third and fourth Jameses. A faint dawn of maritime power seems at that period to have infringed on the political horizon of this northern part of our island; but, if we can rely on what our Scottish historians tell us, we have reason to think the navy of our southern neighbours was in a state infinitely inferior to that which is at present the glory of England and the terror of the universe. Sir Andrew Wood is said to have twice gained the victory over the squadrons of *Henry VII.* In the year 1489*, an armament of five ships of war, infested the Frith of Forth, picking up every vessel that went out, or was homeward bound; besides landing their crews, and committing every species of outrage which the nature of their designs warranted. The English force consisted of five ships, but the Scottish commander had only two, which were named the *Yellow Carnal*†, and the *Flower*. With these he fought the English men of war at the mouth of the Frith, off the castle of Dunbar. After an obstinate resistance, the English yielded, and their ships were carried into Leith harbour. For this important service Sir Andrew Wood was rewarded with the lands of Largo, of which he had before only been tenant. The King of England, hearing of the disaster that had befallen his squadron in the north seas, sent *Stephen Bull* (a man of

* Some write 1482. *Vide* Sibbald's History of Fife, p. 129.

† Or *Yellow Kervel*. *Ibid.*

high nautical reputation, and of tried courage) to bring captive to London, dead or alive, this daring Scottish captain. Arriving at the entrance of the Frith, the English commander lay in wait for Wood at the back of the *Isle of May*, in order to intercept his return from the Low countries, whither he had been with a convoy. Wood at length hove in sight; and, by day-break, was descried from the topmast by some Scottish pilots who had been seized by order of the English captain, and were detained for the purpose of gaining information respecting the Scottish ships of war. Sir Andrew, little suspecting how matters stood, found himself close in upon the English squadron. To it they went, yard arm and yard arm.—Night fell; but the combat was only suspended. By next dawn, they renewed the fight; and so eager was each party for the victory, that both squadrons were, unperceived by the combatants, driven by the wind and tide to the mouth of the *Frith of Tay*; when, from the English ships being larger and heavier than the Scottish, the former stuck fast, embanked, and fell an easy prey to the Scottish commander, who took the crews and sent them into *Dundee* as prisoners of war*. Three hundred years after this period, a native of Dundee, the gallant hero of Camperdown, led the squadron of Britain, no longer two nations, against that of Holland. The event is well known.—His name and exploits will be mentioned by future historians, with no less pride than those of former times have recorded the valour and renown of Sir Andrew Wood, of Largo.

* See Sibbald's *History of Fife*, p. 128; Drummond's *History of the Five James's*, p. 64; and Pitscottie's *History of Scotland*, p. 180. 185.

Soon after leaving Upper Largo, we pass through the village called *Lundin-mill*, and cross the Largo over a bridge of one arch. The situation of this village is truly picturesque.—At the embouchure of this rivulet with the sea is *Lower Largo*. We cross the *Scoonie*, a small rivulet over which a bridge is much wanted, as in times of great floods it swells to an amazing height. The church yard of Scoonie slopes to the brink of the water. The church, which is no longer to be seen, belonged anciently to the priory of St. Andrews. Proceeding westward, we have on the right the ancient *Tower of Lundin*, now fitted up as a family residence, with a front consonant to our ideas of Gothic structure. Near this edifice, in the middle of a plain, are three stones set upright in the ground, measuring eighteen feet above, and it is supposed as much below ground: tradition says, these stones are Danish monuments*.

We pass through the village of Leven, near which the river Leven is received by the Forth. A safe and commodious situation for a harbour presents itself in this place. At present, the pier is but in poor repair: indeed, hardly of any service†. Though this is but an inconsiderable village, yet there is a post-office established in it, with an arrival from Edinburgh on every day but Sunday. Near Leven is the parochial school, at which English, Latin, and Greek, writing, arithmetic, and book-keeping are taught; and also some branches of practical mathematics, as navigation, &c. At this seminary the ingenious and learned

* See Sibbald and Pennant. St. Fond makes mention of these stones, but falls into error respecting their situation and antiquity. See Edin. Mag. vol. ii. p. 324.

† This harbour belongs to the estate of *Durie*. There is a ferry-boat for foot passengers only. The *Cameron* bridge is about a mile and a half up the Leven.

Jerome Stone, Rector of the School of Dunkeld, and author of "The Immortality of Authors," and some translations from the Gaelic language just published in the Scots Magazine, received the rudiments of his education; which, however, from the slender state of his finances, consisted merely in what the poorest villagers acquire previous to their setting out in life.

JEROME STONE became an orphan when but three years old. His father (a reputable sea-faring man) having left him, and a few more helpless little ones, to the care of his mother, in circumstances bordering on extreme poverty, Stone betook himself to the humble calling of selling buckles, garters, sleeve-buttons, thimbles, needles, pins, and other small ware, as a means of subsistence. A taste for reading at length led him to prefer attending fairs as an itinerant bookseller; through dealing in books, his passion for literary pursuits increased. A thirst of knowledge naturally succeeded; and possessing an aptitude for acquiring languages, with little assistance, he made himself acquainted with, first, the Hebrew, and next the Greek authors; but of the Latin language he was altogether ignorant. To the acquisition of this language, however, he applied himself with such diligence, as in a short time to be able to prosecute his studies at the university of St. Andrews. By the patronage and munificence of a learned divine (Principal *Tullideph*), a man of property near Leven, our young scholar was enabled to go through the usual academic course with ease and comfort. At the university, his progress in every department of science to which he directed his attention, gained him the regard of his fellow-students, and the esteem of his masters. But before he had finished his third session at St. Andrews, he was appointed
assistant

assistant to the rector of Dunkeld school; and a few years after succeeded to the rectorship. Although quite ignorant of the Gaelic when he went to Dunkeld, yet, by unwearied application, he acquired such a knowledge of that language, as to enable him to collect and translate (long before M'Pherson made his first essay in translating Ossian) several of our ancient poems, which he published in the Scots Magazine, in which are also to be seen several of his original pieces*. But, in 1757, when in the thirtieth year of his age, this extraordinary young man breathed his last: and thus the fond hopes of all who knew his worth and uncommon attainments were at once blighted. The kind and dutiful attention which *Stone* paid to his aged mother, who survived him but two years, is noticed with peculiar satisfaction by the author from whom this slight sketch is borrowed. "He died (says that author) while he was writing "and preparing for the press a treatise intitled *An Inquiry into the original of the Nation and Language of the Ancient Scots; with conjectures about the primitive state of the Celtic and European Nations*: an idea (continues he) which could not "have been conceived by an ordinary genius †."

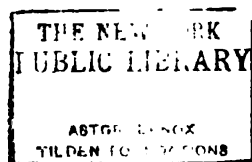
The river *Leven*, which, as it approaches the sea, displays some ample windings, has its source in *Loch Leven*, in the castle of which *Patrick Graham*, archbishop of St. Andrews, and *Mary Stuart*, Queen of Scots, were at different remote periods imprisoned ‡. The *Leven* abounds with trout of various kinds: there is also a salmon-fishing on it belonging to the *Durie*

* See Stat. Acc. vol. v. p. 112; Campbell's Introduction to the Hist. of Poetry in Scotland, p. 35; and the Scots Magazine for the years 1752. 1755. and 1756.

† See Stat. Acc. vol. v. p. 112.

‡ In the years 1466, and 1567.

estate.





Wemyss Castle

London: Published March 1, 1832, by Messrs. Colnaghi & Co., Pall Mall.

estate. In the neighbourhood of Leven a brick work has lately been begun: an extensive manufacture of brown linen is carried on by the inhabitants; and there is likewise a pretty large bleachfield; opposite to which the *Kirkland* cotton-works, recently burnt down, were erected.

Proceeding, we pass on the left the small fishing towns of *Methuel** and *Buckhaven*†, the latter of which was considerable when the white fishing was abundant on the coasts of the Frith of Forth. We soon pass through the villages of Easter‡ and Wester§ Wemyss. Near to the latter, seated on a rock projecting boldly into the sea, Wemyss castle, the ancient residence of the family of Wemyss||, is seen. It is an edifice that cannot

* Or *Methill*. There is here an excellent harbour, built by *David* earl of *Wemyss*, at which are shipped coal and salt, the produce and manufacture of the Wemyss estate. There was a parsonage, but it is now suppressed. *Sibbald's Hist. of Fife.*

† *Buck-haven* belongs also to the Wemyss estate.

‡ *Easter Wemyss* is a poor but populous village. The inhabitants are day-labourers, weavers, and fishermen, chiefly. It is a part of the estate of Wemyss. The parish church of *Easter Wemyss* once belonged to "*Ecclesia collegiata S. Trinitatis de Edinburgh.*" *Vide Sibbald's Hist. of Fife, p. 128.*

§ *Wester Wemyss* belongs likewise to the Wemyss estate. It has a harbour, and its shipping trades in coal and salt, as at *Methill*. The coal mines on the estate of Wemyss being threatened with inundation, an attempt to free them is about to be made, by cutting drains leading from the *levels* to the river *Leven*, which it is expected will answer the desired purpose.

|| The surname and title of *Wemyss* originate from the caverns or weems along the shore of this part of the coast. The family of *Wemyss* is among the oldest in this part of the united kingdom; as we find that, on the death of *Alexander III.* the states of Scotland sent *David Wemyss* and *Michael Scott* of *Balwearie* for the king's granddaughter, *Margaret* the *Maid of Norway*, who died before they reached the end of their journey. *Buchan. lib. viii.* "In testimony of this honourable commission and embassy" (says *Sibbald*) there is still preserved in the house of *Weems* a silver bason of an antique fashion, which *David de Weems* got from the king of *Norway* at that time." *Sibbald's Hist. of Fife, p. 127.*

fail

fail to strike and interest the beholder. Around it are pleasure-grounds laid out in a taste every way suited to the grandeur and style of the characteristic features of the place. The excavations of the rocks, which are free-stone, are remarkable. The old castle, now in ruins, is seen to the eastward, built immediately above a range of caverns, many of which are converted into dove-cots. The largest of these caves seems to have been used in former times either as a prison or a place of refuge, the great openings being built up in the most substantial manner. There is a circular aperture at the top, which might have been for the purpose either of letting down prisoners, or for the admission of light, or perhaps for both.

At every step the country appears more and more populous; and on our approach to DYSART*, another of our Scottish burghs, the air of business manifested on either hand produces the liveliest emotions of interest. About the beginning of the sixteenth century, Dysart was erected into a burgh royal. Its harbour is good, and its shipping, considering the decayed state of the trade along the east coast of Fife, pretty considerable. The chief traffic is in coal, carried coastwise †. Formerly, there

* *Dysart* is populous, but the inhabitants poor. There are thirteen square-rigged vessels employed in its trade, which has been of late (as is the case with its neighbouring town *West Wemyss*) extended to the shores of the Baltic, and other parts of the north of Europe.

† The *coal heughs*, or coal pits, in the vicinity of Dysart were once remarkable for their emission of smoke, and sometimes even of flame itself. Sir Robert Sibbald, who wrote about the end of the seventeenth century, says, that in his time the coal in the neighbourhood of Dysart was known to have been burning for near two hundred years. From the phenomena exhibited by the Dysart coal-heughs, Buchanan has fixed on the fields of Dysart as the scene of calling out evil spirits. See *Franciscanus*. The passage is quoted by Pennant. *Tour in Scotland*, vol. iii. p. 203. See also Sibbald's *Hist. of Fife*, p. 163.

was a manufactory for iron nails at *Path-head*, the next village through which we pass. It is said, that the frequent contemplation of the dexterity with which the nailers performed their tasks suggested to the late celebrated author of the "*Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations**" the vast advantages that result from the division of labour, in turning to account the industry and ingenuity of individuals, the fundamental proposition of his admirable speculations. Below Path-head, a little to the left, on a projecting rock, stands the castle of *Raven-sCraig* †. James III. bestowed this castle, with the lands to which it belongs, on *Saint Clair, Earl of Orkney*. It is now in ruins. The distance from Path-head to Kirkaldy is but small.

The lang town o' Kirkaldie, as it is often called, exhibits, sure enough, length sufficient for its breadth: and the mean, dirty, uncomfortable appearance of its houses has long been proverbial, even among the neighbouring towns. It may convey to a stranger an idea of the taste for building in Scotland two hundred years ago. But it is in examining the circumstances connected with it that *Kirkaldy* ‡ becomes interesting.

At what particular period the town of Kirkaldy was first built is not known: but in the year 1334, David II. bestowed it, together with the towns of Kinghorn and Bruntisland, on

* Adam Smith, LL. D. The manufacture of nails is still carried on at Pathhead, though on a smaller scale than formerly. The nailors usually earn from six to eight shillings a week!

† Or *Ravens-Hengb.* See Sibbald's *Hist. of Fife*, p. 125.

‡ Or *Kirk-caldie*. "It hath its name (says Sibbald) from some cells of the *Caldees* here in ancient times," p. 124.

the abbey of Dunfermline*. It continued in the possession of the abbey till *anno* 1450, when the abbots relinquished their claim into secular hands; and the community of Kirkaldy obtained, in 1644, a charter of confirmation from Charles I. by whom it was erected into a burgh royal *de novo*, with the usual privileges, freedom, and immunities. During the latter part of the sixteenth, and most of the seventeenth century, Kirkaldy appears, from authentic records, to have possessed a considerable share of shipping. But the effects of civil war hastened, in a peculiar manner, the decline of the trade of this town; for, its inhabitants deeply interesting themselves in what they conceived to be the pure principles of civil and religious liberty, and espousing the cause of the parliament against their unfortunate king, on the restoration of monarchy they experienced the vengeance which awaited the traitorous and disobedient. On the glorious event of the revolution, peace, security, ease, and the quiet enjoyment of the fruits of industry, diffused a true spirit of enterprize, in which the inhabitants of Kirkaldy participated most cordially. No sooner, however, had the happy effects of that event been tasted, than the *bealing draught* was embittered with nauseous ingredients mingled in the cup by those who had effected the union of South and North Britain. Taxes, duties, and customs, were heavy and manifold, and by many deemed insupportable. Trade, at least for half a century, languished on the shores of the Forth: the glow of commerce became as it were extinct: the spirits of the Scots drooped and died. The union was deemed the cause that hastened the fate and inflicted the death-wound of the trade and commerce

* *Vide* Hope's Minor Pract. p. 346. and Keith's Catalogue, p. 246.

of North Britain. In that progress of refinement, however, which within the last fifty years has taken place over the whole habitable globe, the temporary effects of the union have long ago ceased to appear; and many wise men are of opinion, that no event whatsoever, in its very nature and essence, could have operated more favourably than the union in the advancement of every thing valuable, truly good, and excellent, for the mutual comfort and greatness of both nations. Be it so, now that these interests are one: so may it remain undivided to latest posterity! Let monopoly cease; trade and commerce, the soul of which consists of ingenuity and industry, extend their benign influence to every section of the globe; and may every individual, honestly, industriously, and peaceably inclined, enjoy, in full security, the fruits of his labour!

At present, the value of the shipping belonging to Kirkaldy does not exceed 30,000*l.* * most of which is employed in foreign trade for home consumption. The number of square-rigged vessels is about forty. The harbour of Kirkaldy is exposed to the violence of stormy weather, as the grounds adjoining afford no shelter whatever. This is a material disadvantage, and one that cannot easily be removed: consequently more secure harbours (and there are many on the coast of Fife) will be preferred, much to the prejudice of this, otherwise, industrious and thriving burgh.

The linen manufactories in this town are pretty considerable. Two thousand looms (including the whole district †) are con-

* Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 25.

† By the district is meant, various parts adjacent, some of which extend to neighbouring parishes.

stantly employed, 250 of which are in the town and parish. There are other branches of manufacture established here, such as tanning of leather, weaving of stockings, making of boots and shoes, besides considerable salt-works; all of which are stimulated by competition and a ready market, and not a little encouraged by the free circulation of paper money and the discount of bills, through the medium of a branch of the *Bank of Scotland* which was established in the year 1785.

This burgh is one of four which send a representative to parliament*. The *Sét*, as it is called, or Constitution, was in its commencement popular, the magistrates being elected by the suffrage of the community belonging to the burgh: but, varying with the political changes of the day, Kirkaldy has shared the fate of all our Scottish burghs. The old magistrates name and elect the new; by which means government can make sure of men *truly loyal*, and ready at all times to promote the wise and salutary measures that may be deemed needful for the advancement of our national prosperity and independence.

If any rational being doubts the wisdom and abilities of our present rulers, let him read the pamphlets of Mr. Rose on the subject of our inexhaustible means of carrying on war—and be convinced†.

Amidst other advantages which Kirkaldy enjoys, that of an excellent public seminary (though by some called obscure) for initiating youth in the rudiments of learning is not the least

* Dyfart, Kinghorn, and Bruntisland, are joined to Kirkaldy.

† See particularly "A brief Examination into the Increase of the Revenue, Commerce, and Manufactures of Great Britain, from 1792 to 1799, by Geo. Rose, Esq." in which are demonstrated, with algebraic precision, the true cause of national prosperity,

valuable.

valuable. A school, even though it be obscure, that can boast of having opened the volumes of science to so rare a genius as ADAM SMITH, author of "The Theory of Moral Sentiment"—"An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations," and other literary productions, must ever feel conscious of its own importance in this pleasurable reflection, that to have initiated the author of such elegant and useful works in the rudiments of his education would be deemed a signal honour, which Eton, Winchester, or Westminster, might be proud to boast. Kirkaldy was also the birth-place of our philosopher, a slight sketch of whose life may not be uninteresting.

ADAM SMITH was the son of *Adam Smith* and of his wife *Margaret Douglas*, both of whom were descended honourably, of families of some condition; Smith's grandfather, at the time of his father's birth, being comptroller of the customs at Kirkaldy, where he usually resided. In this town, on the 5th June 1723, a few months after his father's death, our author was born. Here his mother remained, and reared up her orphan son, the only fruit of her marriage; and here, likewise, he received the rudiments of his early education. While an infant, and indeed during the whole of his life, his constitution was rather below the standard of health. The only incident of his infancy worthy of being mentioned is that of his being carried away, while on a visit to his maternal uncle, by a gang of tinkers: fortunately, however, the vagrants were pursued almost immediately, overtaken, and young Smith snatched from their hands, and presented to the distracted mother. This excellent woman lived to enjoy in ease and comfort all the honours heaped on her amiable and accomplished son, thus mercifully preserved:

preserved to her, as well as to the world at large; to which, as an enlightened citizen, he peculiarly belonged.

Smith's passion for literary and philosophical pursuits displayed itself even in his childhood: it grew up with him; and, blessed with a retentive and well-regulated memory, every department of learning to which he bent his attention became familiar and easy in a much less space of time than is usually consumed in the attainment of elegant and useful knowledge. He was first sent to the university of Glasgow (in which he afterwards became a professor); and in three years after (*anno* 1740), at the age of seventeen, to Baliol college, Oxford, as an exhibitor on SNELL's foundation. Here his favourite pursuits were mathematics and experimental philosophy. His ruling passion, however, afterwards discovered itself in his desire to enlighten, improve, and better the condition of civil society. The admirable productions of his pen sufficiently justify this remark.

Our author remained at Oxford seven years; at the end of which period, he returned to his native town, Kirkaldy, and lived in retirement with his mother. He had been designed for holy orders, but this he modestly declined; preferring philosophical quiet to the sanctimonious restraint at that time indispensable in the clerical profession. In 1748, he read lectures at Edinburgh in rhetoric and belles lettres, where he formed intimate friendships with HENRY HOME (Lord Kaimes), ALEXANDER WEDDERBURN (now Earl of Roslyn), and several others since distinguished on the great theatre of the political world, and in the commonwealth of letters. DAVID HUME the historian was one of his most intimate friends. In 1750, while yet in
the

the flower of manhood, he was called to the chair of Logic in the university of Glasgow; where he soon after succeeded to the professorship of Moral Philosophy, in which situation he remained thirteen years, the happiest and most useful period (he was often heard to say) of his whole life. In 1759 the first edition of "The Theory of Moral Sentiments" appeared. To the second edition of this work was annexed the "Dissertation on the Origin of Languages." Our philosopher was now about to leave the shades of academic quiet and still enjoyment, for the grand scenes of foreign travel, and the vain pursuits of the thoughtless many. He was in the prime of life, his fame established, and his acquaintance courted by the learned and the great, when, in the year 1763, he was invited by CHARLES TOWNSEND to accompany the Duke of BUCCLEUGH on his tour through Europe; and of this invitation he thought proper to accept. How far his noble companion was satisfied, is elegantly expressed by himself in the words subjoined. "In October 1766, (says the Duke*) we returned to London, after having spent near three years together without the slightest disagreement or coolness: on my part (continues his Grace) with every advantage that could be expected from the society of such a man. We continued to live in friendship till the hour of his death; and I shall always remain with the impression of having lost a friend whom I loved and respected; not only for his great talents, but for every private virtue." On returning home from his travels, Smith hastened into retirement, and went to live at his mother's in Kirkaldy, where she

* As quoted by Mr. Dugald Stuart (professor of Moral Philosophy in the university of Edinburgh), in his "Account of the Life and Writings of Dr. Smith."

usually

usually resided. Ten years passed in this retreat, during which he produced his great and admirable work, "An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations." In 1776, this important labour first issued from the press; and before our author's exit from the great stage on which he had sustained so distinguished a part, he had the singular happiness of not only witnessing his valuable work translated into the languages of the continent, but also the leading principles themselves incorporated with the commercial systems that obtain throughout every section of the trading world. The main proposition of the "Wealth of Nations" is, that the ingenuity and industry of a nation constitute its real wealth, the foundation of which is its population *. This proposition is beautifully illustrated in the illumined pages of which the volumes alluded to are composed, and of which posterity will reap the advantage †. Our author survived this publication fifteen years. His mother, with whom he constantly lived in family, died in 1784; and in 1788 Miss JANE DOUGLAS, his cousin, also died. He was never married, nor had any children; and the relatives with whom he had lived, "the objects of his affection for more than

* It still remains a question of the first importance, Whether the moral and intellectual faculties of man keep pace with the acquirement of national wealth, and consequent taste for *the artificial necessities of civilized society*: or, in other words, Whether what a people gains in wealth and luxury, they do not in like proportion lose in energy of intellect, probity of heart, health and soundness of bodily constitution? Perhaps the true prosperity of nations, as well as their glory and stability, depends on a due proportion of industry and ingenuity; together with a strict regard to moral rectitude and intellectual attainments.

† About two years after the "Wealth of Nations" appeared, by the patronage of his Grace of Buccleugh, the author of it was appointed one of the Commissioners of the Customs in Scotland.

“ sixty years, and in whose society he had enjoyed, from his “ infancy, all he ever knew of the endearments of a family,” were now hid from his sight. He was alone, and helpless; advanced in years, and not a living soul to whose existence he had been accessory, or who could call him by the endearing name of *Father*! All this he bore as became a man; and in July 1790, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, he breathed his last.

All his manuscripts, except his “ *Essays on Philosophical subjects*,” edited by Professor Dugald Stewart, and published in 1795, were destroyed at his particular request; which mournful duty was scrupulously executed previous to his death. The valuable library which, with much pains and judgment, he had been collecting during the greater part of his life, he bequeathed, with the rest of his property, to David Douglas of the Scottish bar. His executors, (with whom he had lived in habits of friendship for many years,) the late Dr. Black and the late Dr. Hutton, with kind regard, witnessed the closing scene of his existence. Both these philosophers have since, in their turns, sunk into the grave. Much loss, indeed, did Scotland sustain towards the close of the eighteenth century, in the death of her brightest ornaments of literature and philosophy:—Stuart, Robertson, and Hume, our historians; Smith and Reid, the philosophers of the human mind; Cullen, Hutton, and Black, the fathers of our natural history, chemistry, and medicine. Others, also, might be specified, who but lately were the ornaments of the Scottish bench and bar (among whom Lords Kames, Hailes, and Monboddo, stood pre-eminent); but that the mournful catalogue would fill the memory with tender and melancholy recollections.

Of those contemporaries of Doctor Smith, who were natives of Kirkaldy, the names of Drysdale and Oswald, the former an ornament to the established church of Scotland, the latter a patriot and statesman of the first order, might be mentioned with distinguished regard.

Mr. *Oswald, of Dunnikeer*, was originally bred to the Scottish bar. In 1741, he represented his native burgh, and afterwards the county, in Parliament; he gradually rose from that station to be a commissioner of plantations, a lord of the treasury, vice-treasurer of Ireland, and a privy counsellor. In 1768, this gentleman returned to his native place*, and spent the remaining years of his life in dignified retirement, which were greatly embittered by ill health, induced, it is said, by too intense application to public concerns. He died in 1769, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, sincerely lamented; leaving behind him the grateful remembrance of his country, whose commercial interests he shewed himself zealous and prompt in advancing; ever watchful over the rights and privileges of the community at large; and jealous lest at any time the prosperity of the nation should suffer through negligence or mismanagement, or be suffered to fall into error through misguided ambition, or the misapplication of its substantial power and wealth.

It will be no less honourable to Kirkaldy, to mention one or two of its citizens who distinguished themselves in more remote periods of our national history. During the perilous times of civil and religious commotions, Messrs. *George* and *Patrick Gillespie* and *Robert Douglas*, natives, and sometime ministers of

* The Oswalds of Dunnikeer possess considerable landed property in the parish of Kirkaldy. The family residence is immediately at the back of the town.

the parish of Kirkaldy, were remarkable for the several parts they bore in the ecclesiastical bickerings, and civil movements, broils, and conflicts of their time; each taking and changing sides as views, interests, and inclination directed; sometimes espousing the cause of our first and second Charleses, and sometimes favouring the views of Oliver Cromwell and his Parliament, yet keeping steadfastly in view the true interests of the reformed religion.

In the century preceding that in which the last mentioned citizens of Kirkaldy flourished, a native of Fife, in the immediate vicinity of this burgh, namely KIRKALDIE of *Grange**, might

* The old house of Hallyards, situated on the small lake called Camilla loch, belonged to the Kirkaldies of Grange, a family frequently mentioned in the history of this country. When Bothwell, after the foul murder of Darnley, had escaped justice, and was committing acts of piracy near the Orcades, and islands of Shetland, William Kirkaldy of Grange fitted out a fleet against him, and had nearly got him into his power; but, eluding the vigilance of Grange, Bothwell escaped to Denmark, where he was recognized and imprisoned. In this fallen state he spent ten years, and was left to perish. During the regency of Mary of Guise, the French troops "spoiled the laird of Granges' house and villages, and syne blew up the house with gunpowder."—Pit-scottie's Hist. of Scot. p. 381.; Buchanan, lib. xix. As a striking instance of the mutability of events during the imprisonment of Mary, and the minority and early part of her son's reign, may be mentioned the fate of Kirkaldy of Grange, and of the Regent Morton. The politic Elizabeth, keeping within the precincts of North Britain the civil broils that existed after the murder of Darnley, assisted Morton with troops, who laid siege to the castle of Edinburgh, in which Kirkaldy commanded as governor. The siege was obstinate, and bloody on both sides. Kirkaldy was obliged at last to yield. Although promised life and liberty, he was given up to Morton, and, on "the 3d day of Auguste (1573) the laird of Grange, surnamed Kirkaldy, qwho wes "captaine of the castell of Edinburgh, ves hangit at the crosse of the said toune, for "keeping of the said castell against the king and his regent."—Birrel's Diary, p. 21. But the king's regent, the gloomy Morton, yielded in his turn to adverse fortune, as the following extract from the same author testifies: "upon the 9 Maii, in the zier

might be noticed particularly, were it not to give place to another personage, who was born within a very short distance of Kirkaldy, namely MICHAEL SCOT of Balwirie, the Friar Bacon of North Britain.

A striking proof of the early introduction of learning into Scotland, and of its connection with the progress of literature, after the revival of learning in the middle ages through the western empire, is afforded in the many native Scottish who rose to eminence in composition not only in their own country, but in foreign regions, where shone the brightest luminaries of newly enlightened Europe. The names of JOHN SCOTT of *Dunfe** (or, as he is called, Duns Scotus), and MICHAEL SCOTT of *Balwirie*, are handed down to us as sacred to literature and science. The latter of these,

MICHAEL SCOTT of *Balweary*†, born near the burgh of Kirkaldy, flourished in the thirteenth century. Having twice performed an embassy to Norway, and into France and Ger-

(1581) the earle of Mertonnes brought out of Dumbartane castell to Edinburghe, and being accusit for committing the king's (Darnley's) murther, wes convicte be an assize; and one the second day of the moneth of Junii thereafter, was beheidit at yecrosse of Edinburghe." Ibid. p. 22. ; see also Robertson's Hist. of Scot.; Holinshed's Hist. of England.

* *Duns Scotus* was born in the small town of Dunfe near Berwick-upon-Tweed, in the year 1274. The site of the house in which he was born is still pointed out. He taught with much celebrity in the universities of Paris and Oxford; and was carried off by a fit of the apoplexy in the thirty-fourth year of his age, leaving behind him of his writing twelve volumes in folio, on theological and metaphysical subjects. Scaliger mentions Duns Scotus in the highest terms of panegyric. *John Brown*, author of the Brunonian system, was a native of Dunfe.

† Balwirie, or Balweary, forms part of Mr. Ferguson of Raith's property in the parish of Abbotshall, a little to the north-west of Kirkaldy.

many,

many, where he was received with distinguished marks of regard; particularly by the Emperor Frederick II.; he returned to his native country, to philosophic retirement, remote from the war that deluged the countries he had but lately visited in the pursuit of knowledge and human refinement. Astrology, medicine, and alchemy, were the favourite pursuits of his time: and continued to be so, till *Lord Bacon* opened the path and pointed the way to the temple of nature and true science. Our philosopher once more set out in quest of improvement, and travelled to the English court, where he was kindly entertained by Edward I. Returning to his family residence, he spent the remainder of his life in literary speculations, and died there in the year 1291. This singular genius is said to have been skilled in languages, and an adept in the philosophy, mathematics, medicine, and chemistry of the age in which he flourished*. The usual list of the works that he left behind him is the following:

1. Avicenna's book on Animals, from the Arabic.
2. A Commentary on the Works of Aristotle.
3. A Treatise on the Secrets of Nature; in particular, Physiognomy (a science lately revived by LAVATER).
4. The Nature of the Sun and Moon; a Treatise on Alchemy (wherein he speaks of the *grand operation* †, so happily introduced into the *St. Leon* of Godwin).

* See Edin. Mag. Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. Mackenzie's Lives, and Sibbald's Hist. of Fife.

† It is matter of curious remark, that the *opus major*, or grand operation of transmuting metals into gold, was eagerly sought after by all the crowned heads of Europe. Sir John Davis, in his treatise on Tonnage, mentions that Edward III. had purchased the secret from the famous alchymist Raymond Lully. Henry VI. too, it is well known, wished anxiously to become an adept in alchemy. The historiographer Rymer has preserved several writs, grants, and protections of different kings of England to alchymists.

5. *Menſa Philoſophica*; a Treatiſe on Judicial Aſtrology and Chiromancy. The panegyriſts of Scott of Balweary were, *Cornelius Agrippa*, and *Roger* (Friar) *Bacon*. Like other learned men in the dark ages of the church, he was deemed a magician: and many marvellous ſto-ries of his magical powers are yet current in Fife; of old, a place celebrated for witchcraft, and even ſo late as the middle of the ſeventeenth century*.

The diſtance between Kirkaldy and Kinghorn is two miles. There is little intereſting in that ſpace on the coaſt itſelf, except an obſervatory lately erected by Mr. Ferguſon of Raith, commanding an extenſive proſpect in every direction; it ſerves beſides as a mark to ſhips coming up the Frith, which, were it to anſwer no other purpoſe, is of itſelf a ſufficient object of public benefit and grateful remembrance. Paſſing onward, the oppoſite coaſt of Eaſt and Weſt Lothian preſents a magnificent

* Nothing can more completely characterize the times than the horrid practice of burning poor unfortunate wretches for the ſuppoſitious crime of witchcraft. The truth of this remark is confirmed by the poſitive teſtimony of hiſtory, the pages of which will ever remain ſtained with the *legal crimes* of former periods. The celebrated Sir George Mackenzie, the learned Lord Advocate of Scotland in the reigns of Charles II. and James VII. declares witchcraft to be the *greateſt of crimes*; and that the lawyers of Scotland cannot doubt there are witches ſince the law ordains them to be puniſhed. *Vide Criminal Law*.—It is not to be wondered at then, that this barbarous mode of puniſhment was perſe-
vered in. At Kirkaldy, in 1633, a man and his wife were burnt for witchcraft.—See Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. Append. On Sept. 13. 1678, ten women were ſtrangled and burnt for the ſame crime.—See Arnot's Criminal Trials. Among the laſt inſtances of this kind was one at Paisley in 1697.—*Vide Semple's Hiſtory of Renfrewſhire*. An inſtance, however, is on record ſo late as 1722!—See Arnot's Criminal Trials.—“What notion ſhall we form (ſays Arnot) of popular opinions in general, or of thoſe which then prevailed in this country in particular, when his Majeſty's Advocate could proſecute, fifteen impartial jurymen convict, and the ſupreme judge of the nation condemn to the flames, ten women for having had ***** with the devil.”—See Arnot's Hiſt. of Edin. p. 194.

range along the south shores of the Frith of Forth. Edinburgh, seated proudly on its eminence amid surrounding hills, is seen to manifest advantage. Nearer the shore is Leith, the sea-port of the capital; before which the roads appear covered with shipping at anchor, the usual station above Inch Keith. We pass on our left the solitary ruins of *Sea-field* tower, said to have been once a kingly residence *; and soon after descend into the town of

KINGHORN, another of our poor royal burghs †, which is as ill built as Kirkcaldy, and exhibits the same irregularity and mean dirty appearance. It possesses the advantage of a stream of water, which issues from a small lake about a mile distance on the level heights above the town, and which serves the corn mills, and the machinery for spinning flax lately erected by Messrs. Ayton. Another branch of manufacture in Kinghorn is that of knitting of stockings, for which it has long been celebrated. There are two harbours belonging to this burgh; one immediately adjoining the town, and another about a mile further west, called the *Pettycur*, the station for the ferry-boats being thence to Leith ‡. An excellent inn for the accommodation and comfort of passengers has recently been built here. This was indeed much wanted. The pier was built in the year 1760: a lighthouse has since been erected; and a turnpike, which lets at

* It is mentioned as once having been the seat of the *Moubrays*. See Sibbald's *Hist. of Fife*, p. 124.

† "King David I. endowed this town (Kinghorn) with the privileges of a burgh royal, and king Alexander III. confirmed them." Sibbald's *Hist. of Fife*, p. 124.

‡ The harbour of *Pettycur* is apt to fill with sand, which is with difficulty cleared away. There are two basins, one on the east and another on the west side of the pier. That on the west is totally useless: it cost 2,600l.

200l. a year, was lately placed at the entrance to the ferry, for defraying all incidental expences.

Should the traveller be disposed to go no farther up the shores of the Forth, the passage to Leith is safe and speedy. The distance is from seven to eight miles ; and the time taken up in the passage is from forty minutes to an hour and a half ; an hour is about the average of time. But, should the traveller wish to cross the Forth at the Queen's Ferry, he may proceed along the sands to *Bruntisland*, where, about half a mile to the westward, a spring issues in a copious *jet-d'eau* from the face of a perpendicular rock, called *Kingborn Spaw*, recommended as a specific in cases of sore eyes. From the top of this rock a fine prospect of either side of the Frith is commanded, particularly the southern shores as far as North Berwick, the Bass and North Berwick-law being distinguished objects : the island of Inchkeith * forms a striking feature in the middle distance ; which, as it leads the eye to the rocky beach and harbour of the Pettycur, connects the vast range into a magnificent whole, if not picturesque, at least partaking of the sublime. A small way from this spring are seen the craggy heights called in the language of the country people "*The King's Road End*," in allusion to the unhappy end of Alexander III. who, as he was riding in the

* Inchkeith, the supposed *Caer-guidi* of the venerable Bede, was formerly chosen as a fit situation for a battery to protect the harbour of Leith. It appears by act of council, that in the month of September 1497, soon after the fatal introduction into Europe, by the discovery of the new world, of that disease which was then deemed incurable, all such persons as were infected within the freedom of the burgh of Edinburgh were ordered to the Sands of Leith, thence to be transported to Inchkeith, "*and there to remain till God provided for their health.*" The penalty of non-compliance was, burning on the cheek. Council Reg. vol. i. p. 33.

dusk of the evening, mistook his road, and, coming unawares to the brink of this precipice, his horse plunged headlong down it, the king being dashed to pieces in the fall: this happened (*anno* 1285) in the 37th year of his reign. Long had Scotland to bewail the untimely death of this good prince. Under his reign that country was united to England in the closest bonds of amity and goodwill: Alexander, however, leaving behind him no heir but his grand-daughter, *the Maid of Norway*, as she is styled by our historians, in her the royal line of Scotland failed: hence arose the *Baliol* and the *Bruce* contention, which deluged Scotland with blood for many years.

On approaching *Bruntisland**, or, as it was formerly called, *Wester Kinghorn*, the appearance of an arched gate, the principal entrance into the town, gives it an air of antiquity not unpleasing to a stranger: but, having entered, on either hand inactivity and decay are but too manifest. Industry and wealth have long been banished from it. Ever since the union of England and Scotland, this burgh has not been able to recover the shock which that event gave to the coasting trade of the Frith of Forth; and till lately, that herrings have again appeared in the Frith, it was sunk in extreme poverty. This is the more to be regretted, as *Bruntisland* is highly favoured by nature, as a place of easy access by water; and its harbour, the finest by far of any on the Forth, is capable of receiving ships of considerable burden. The basin is nearly circular, and is sheltered from storms by the

* Bruntisland was erected by our Sixth James into a burgh royal. See Sibbald's *Hist. of Fife*, p. 122. In conjunction with Kirkcaldy, Kinghorn, and Dyfart, it sends a representative to parliament; though what advantage it derives from this privilege is best known to its magistrates; for to others it appears not.

circumjacent grounds: it might be made, at no very great expence, one of the completest dock-yards in the British empire. Why have the advantages of this harbour been so long overlooked *?

There are in Bruntisland flour, barley, and meal mills †; a distillery, a work for the manufacture of sulphuric acid, and a sugar work. The command of water for bleaching and for machinery is extremely favourable to the establishment of manufactories in the neighbourhood of this place. Fuel is to be had in abundance, and at reasonable rates. Exports and imports might be managed with ease and dispatch. Many other local advantages might be enumerated, were it necessary to point them out.

To the north-west of Bruntisland, the heights of *Duncarn* and *Orrock* ‡, elevated six hundred feet above the level of the sea, verdant to the top, with a declination abrupt and precipi-

* “ At the east of the town of Bruntisland (says Sibbald) the sea now comes far in upon the land: some persons in the town who died not long since (i. e. about the end of the seventeenth century), did remember the grassy links reach to the black craigs near a mile into the sea now.” Sibbald’s Hist. of Fife, p. 62. Within the last fifteen or twenty years, the sea has made great encroachments on the opposite shores to the west of Leith and Newhaven.

† One of these mills is erected so close to the sea-shore, that its water is supplied, by a very ingenious contrivance, from the sea, which almost insulates Kinghorn.

‡ The hills of Duncarn and Orrock exhibit volcanic appearances. On the summit of Duncarn there is a small lake. Diamonds are said to have been found on the hill of Orrock. *Vide* Stat. Acc. vol. ii. p. 429.—The incrustations and stalactites met with on the rivulet called Stanleyburn are worth picking up as specimens of mineralogy. On the summit of Duncarn hill are the vestiges of what is denominated “ Agricola’s camp,” formed of loose stones scattered loosely. In the neighbourhood of Bruntisland, too, are quarries of free-stone and lime-stone: beautiful flags of variegated marble are also to be met with.

ous, appear grand objects in conjunction with the scenery of the north bank of the Forth, when viewed from certain stations hereafter to be specified. The late proprietor of the estate of Dunearn, *Captain Stuart*, was a man possessed of a high taste for literature and painting *. His library and valuable collection of prints and pictures were sold by his heir, Dr. Charles Stuart of Edinburgh, and are in the hands of several of the lovers of art in and about that city.

The whole way from Bruntisland to *Aberdour* is truly delightful. The road itself is but indifferent; yet, some expence and due regard to a proper line where it requires correction or reparation, would render this piece of highway very pleasant.

The village of *Aberdour* is somewhat less than three miles distant from Bruntisland, and lies about a quarter of a mile from the sea-shore. *Aberdour* has seen better days, as its present appearance but too evidently manifests. The old castle, whose ruins appear in the midst of tall, aged trees, situated on the left bank of the Dour, still preserves the gloomy aspect of its former grandeur. Close under the walls of the castle, where the rivulet darts in among the wooded banks, the old bridge, now a ruin, and propped with beams and buttresses, forms a striking contrast to the elegant bridge now erecting a little higher up the vale through which the Dour meanders. To the north, situated on the sloping declivity rising from the bed of the rivulet, and commanding beautiful and extensive views of the scenery of the Forth, the family mansion of Hillside is seen.

* Mr. Pennant was particularly charmed with Captain Stuart's cabinet: he says, it reminded him of Mynheer Bischop's at Rotterdam,—“the richest repository in Europe, under the poorest roof.” *Tour in Scotl.* vol. iii. p. 208.

On the opposite bank of the Dour, the village residence of the Earl of Morton, lord of the manor, seemingly small and incommodious, surrounded by high walls, hardly appears *. The pleasure grounds belonging to this residence, however, are charming, and capable of great improvement. The wooded mount, called *Cuthel-bill*, on the summit of which an obelisk is raised to the north-west of the harbour, is peculiarly pleasing with respect to picturesque beauty. The harbour, though small, is easy of access, commodious, and well sheltered from the violence of winds; and the command of water for machinery, in the immediate vicinity of Aberdour, points it out as a fit place for the establishment of manufactories.

What will more particularly attract the traveller's notice at Aberdour, is, the island that lies within a short distance of the shore, called *Inchcolme*, on which appear the ruins of an abbey founded by Alexander I. in the year 1123," and dedicated to *St. Columba, abbot of Hye (Icolmkill)*, on an occasion mentioned in a former part of this work. In addition to what is there stated, the following particulars may suffice respecting the history of this hallowed spot.

Among the most celebrated abbots of Inchcolme was *Walter Bowmaker*, one of the continuators of Fordun's *Scotichronicon*.

* According to Sibbald (*Hist. of Fife*, p. 122.), Aberdour was formerly in the possession of the *Wispotts*; in the early part of the thirteenth century, of the Mortimers; and afterwards of the Douglasses, in whose hands it still remains, with the exception of what was granted to the abbey of Inchcolme by Allen de Mortimer.—A nunnery for the poor rigid order of St. Francis, or Clareffes, is said to have existed here. "They had no revenues (says Spottiswood), and depended wholly on the providence of God and the charity of the people for subsistence." There is at present an hospital for four poor widows, founded by Anne Countess of Moray. *Vide Stat. Acc. vol. iv. p. 333.*

He died in 1449. Bowmaker was the cotemporary of *James I.* by whom the mother of Alexander Lord of the Isles, (daughter of the earl of Ross,) a high-minded imperious woman, was banished to Inchcolme; at the same time his rebellious son was sent prisoner (after he had made his submission, and, at the intercession of the Queen, been received into favour) to the *castle of Tantallon* in East Lothian*. On the surrender of *Henry* abbot of Inchcolme, *James Stewart* of Beith was made Commendator of this monastery, *anno* 1543; and in 1611 his second son *Henry* was created a peer by the title of Lord St. Colme†. This establishment was early endowed with considerable property. *Allan de Mortimer Dominus de Aberdour* (an attendant on *Edward III.* in his expedition to Scotland) gave the western part of the lands of Aberdour to Inchcolme abbey, in exchange for the privilege of a family vault in the church‡. A narrow neck of land joins the east and west parts of this island. On the west section appear the ruins of the abbey, which are still in a good state. Some of the buildings have been repaired and converted into barracks. On the east section a small fort has been erected, and a corps of artillery stationed for its defence: so that, in lieu of the pious orisons of holy monks, the orgies of lesser deities are celebrated by the sons of Mars, who, instead of exercising themselves in the chanting of masses and tinkling of bells, cheer their solitude with ungodly ballads, and the occasional noise of their harmless cannon.

* Buchanan, lib. x.

† Hope's Min. Pract. Append. p. 416.

‡ See Sibbald's Hist. of Fife, p. 122. The whole landed property which formerly belonged to this monastery is now in the possession of the earl of Moray, who still retains, among other titles, that of *St. Colme*.

A rude monument, said to be Danish, is to be seen a little to the south-east of the monastery, on a rocky eminence that overhangs the sea: it is now almost entirely defaced. A print of it is given in Sibbald's History of Fife. Near the village of Aberdour a tumulus was lately removed, in which were found a stone coffin containing the head of a spear made of copper, a small amber-like substance supposed to have been an amulet, with the bones of a skeleton. Several urns were also taken up; and in the same field such a quantity of human bones were discovered, as rendered it necessary to desist from violating the ashes of the dead. No tradition whatever takes notice of this place.

A charming road is conducted through the pleasure-grounds of Dinnybirsle, the residence of the earl of Moray, to the village of Aberdour. In the windings of this road, some of the finest views of the Forth are commanded. The family mansion of Dinnybirsle was formerly occupied by the abbots of St. Colme, being within a mile of that monastery, and pleasantly situated close in upon the beach, surrounded by rising grounds now richly clothed with plantations of forest-trees; through which, winding pathways are formed in every direction, and conducted with much fancy, judgment, and taste. The house was a few years ago almost burnt to the ground; but has since been put in complete order, and fitted up in an elegant stile. About two hundred and ten years ago Dinnybirsle was visited with fire and sword, a horrid practice, then common in this distracted country, and (shame to tell!) even continued down to a much later period.

DINNYBIRSLE.

71

Ye Highlands and ye Lawlands!
 Oh where ha'e ye bene?
 They ha'e slain the earl of Moray,
 An' ha'e laid him on the grene.
 They ha'e slain, &c.
 Now wae be to thee, Huntly!
 An' wherefore did ye sae?
 I bade you bring him wi' you:
 But forbade you him to slay.
 I bade, &c.
 He was a bra' gallant,
 And he rid at the ring,
 An' the bonny earl o' Moray!
 Oh! he might ha'e been a king.
 An' the, &c.
 He was a bra' gallant,
 An' he play'd at the ba',
 An' the bonny earl o' Moray
 Was the flower o' them a'.
 An' the, &c.
 He was a bra' gallant,
 An' he play'd at the gluve;
 An' the bonny earl of Momy,
 Oh! he was the Queen's luvie.
 An' the, &c.
 Oh! lang will his Lady
 Look o'er castles Down,
 Ere she see the earl o' Moray
 Come sounding thro' the town.
 Ere she, &c.

This popular lament, supposed to be coëval with the sad event which it records, affords a specimen of our genuine Scottish songs *. For the better understanding, however, of the incidents alluded to, it is necessary to notice a few of the leading

* The melody to which the above is sung is purely indigenous, if we may so express it: the plaintive wildness of the air is peculiarly characteristic of the words.

circum-

circumstances. One of the most elegant and accomplished nobles at the court of our Sixth James (*viz.* James Earl of Murray) was the subject of this lamentation. His having attracted the peculiar notice of the queen (*Anne of Denmark*), created in the mind of the king the keen emotions of jealousy and revenge; and *George earl of Huntly* was charged with the horrid commission of dispatching the queen's favourite. This was put in execution on the night of the 7th February 1592, in the manner following:

The earl of Murray was at his family residence of Dinnybirsle, without the slightest suspicion of the fate then impending. Huntly, with a band of chosen men, favoured by the darkness of the night, surrounded the castle, which he instantly set on fire. Murray, in the utmost amazement, knew not what to think, nor how to conduct himself; having but few attendants at hand, and the whole mansion being in flames. He, nevertheless, put on his armour, with intention to sell his life as dear as possible. A noble trait of magnanimity worthy of record was at this critical juncture displayed by one *Patrick Dunbar*, sheriff of Murray, who peremptorily opposed the earl's executing his rash design. "I will go (said Dunbar) out of the gate before your lordship. The assailants will mistake me for you, and, favoured by the darkness of the night, you may escape. Follow then, my Lord, let the event be what it may." This gallant man rushed forth, and, throwing himself amidst the enemy, fell covered with wounds. Meanwhile Murray had escaped, and sat down among the rocks on the sea-shore, safe, as he thought, from the swords of the assassins; but no sooner had he gained this retreat, than an accident

dent led to his discovery. A silken cord appended to the breast-plate of his helmet had caught fire, unknown to him; and in their search, Huntly's men were drawn to the spot by the sparkling appearance which it made. They seized the earl, trampled him under foot, transfixing him with their swords, and returned to their leader exulting in the murderous deed. In order to keep up a shew of justice, Huntly was thrown into *Blacknefs castle*, on the opposite side of the Forth; but the earl "wes villing to "abyde ane tryal, saying, yat he did nothing but by hes majesties commission, and sua ves nather airt nor pairt of ye murder *." It now remains to notice a few of the allusions in the song.

"Ye highlands, and ye lawlands," &c. This apostrophe alludes to the vassals of Murray on his extensive demesnes in both these districts. "Now wae be to thee, Huntly," &c. (v. 2.) It is the king that thus expresses himself, throwing the blame on Huntly. "He was a bra' gallant," &c. (v. 3, 4, and 5.) may be supposed to express the queen's sentiments with regard to the earl. "The queine," says Balfour, "more rashlie than "wyflie, some few days before (the murder), had commendit " (him) in the king's heiring, with too many epithets of a proper and gallant man †." "Oh! lang will his lady look," &c. (v. 6.): alluding to the anxious solicitude of connubial love. The castle of Down is beyond Stirling, and is another of the castles belonging to the family of Murray.

There is very little to interest a traveller in the whole way from Aberdour to *Inverkiething*. The grounds on either hand exhibit

* *Vide* Pittscottie, Robertson, Birrel's Diary, Balfour and others.

† Bal. An. p. 369.

the best possible state of agriculture, and there are manifest traces of improvement discoverable on the slightest glance. As we approach Inverkiething, we fall in with the road which Sir *John Henderson* made for the waggons constantly plying from his coal works to the harbour of *St. David's*. The distance from *St. David's* to the coal mines is four miles. The waggons carry 48 cwt.* Sir John has likewise extensive salt-works, the salt of which he exports from this harbour, which is easy of access, safe, and commodious, admitting vessels of five or even six hundred tons burden †.

INVERKIETHING is situated on the acclivity which rises from the rivulet Kiething ‡, and constitutes its northern bank at its conflux with the Forth; forming at their junction a spacious bay, measuring about three miles in its curvilinear length, almost surrounded by the adjacent eminences, which approach near the entrance, so as to give it the appearance of a vast basin. The town itself is mean and irregular, most of the old buildings remaining in the state they were in upwards of a century ago. The quays of the harbour are adjoining the town; before the entrance of which the bay sweeps its lengthened shores on either hand, and appears almost land-locked. In this bay, to avoid the storms of winter, ships run in and anchor in perfect security: here, too, vessels were wont to perform quarantine, till the huge hulk (found some years since at sea without a living creature in it) placed at the entrance of the bay was converted into a lazaretto; by which means, ships from foreign ports can deposit their cargoes, and are suffered to return to their places of desti-

* Stat. Acc. vol. xv. p. 270.

† Ibid.

‡ Or Kieth, as it is sometimes called.

nation. The depth of water at spring tides is from 13 to 15 feet at the quay, where ships take in and deliver their goods. The staple exports are coals and salt *.

The trade of Inverkiething is but inconsiderable at present; and, like all the coast-towns along the shores of the Frith of Forth, has fallen into decay ever since the year 1709. There is a distillery (the poor man's greatest enemy) erected here, the whisky of which is in high estimation among dram-drinkers. There is likewise a brewery (the poor man's comfort), which supplies the inhabitants in the town and its immediate vicinity. Wood in considerable quantity is imported from the shores of the Baltic, the sale of which is brisk, and the speculation profitable †. Besides salt works, the trade carried on at which is but trifling, there are also an iron foundery on a small scale, and a tan-work, the situation, command of water, and raw materials for which are favourable to the prosecution of this profitable branch of manufacture ‡. But the most essential advantage that Inverkiething possesses in common with the rest of our coast towns on the Forth is the herring fishery, which has lately been revived, so as to make it probable that considerable shoals will in future frequent the Frith; by which means a spirit of enterprise will rouse our fishermen to activity, industry, and a proper regard to their own interests and that of the community at large.

This town was erected into a royal burgh in the reign of William surnamed the Lion, who flourished in the twelfth century, and is said to have extended its boundaries as far east as the river Leven, where it falls into the sea at *Leven* (Largo bay);

* Stat. Acc. vol. x. p. 304.

† Ibid. vol. x.

‡ Ibid. p. 514, 515, 516.

as far west as the river *Devon*, where it falls into the Forth near *Aloa*, about a mile from *Tullibody*, the family seat of the late much-lamented General *Sir Ralph Abercromby*; and as far north as the county town of *Kinrofs (Lockleven)*: comprehending an extent of country in which many burghs have been erected since the establishment of that of Inverkiething. A charter of confirmation dated 4th May 1598, granted by James VII., declares the rights and privileges of this burgh to extend in length and breadth as formerly *. The *set*, or constitution, continues as originally framed, and exhibits a striking contrast to others of our burghs royal, where we should least expect it. The magistrates are elected by the counsellors and deacons of the trades, which are five in number. The town council, including the deacons and magistrates, cannot be under twenty, but above that number there is no limitation; so that the whole inhabitants that are burgessees are eligible as counsellors; "what is very singular, " (says the author of the Statistical Account) the counsellors can "continue in office during life and residence †." Since the

* Sibbald's Hist. of Fife, p. 121; Stat. Acc. vol. x. p. 500.

† A remarkable contrast to the liberty of suffrage enjoyed by the inhabitants of Inverkiething is to be found in the extract subjoined. "The city of Edinburgh contains seventy thousand inhabitants: of these, thirty-three men only possess the exclusive right of sending to the House of Commons a person who, though elected by so small a number, is, by some singular stretch of fancy, honoured with the respectable name of Representative in Parliament for the city of Edinburgh, the metropolis of Scotland, containing 70,000 inhabitants! The population of Glasgow is computed at forty thousand; but twenty-nine persons only are entitled to vote in the election of a Member of Parliament. The inhabitants of Aberdeen amount to twenty-thousand; the right of voting in the election of a Commissioner to Parliament is at the same time confined to nineteen persons!" See "A Letter from a Member of the General Convention, &c. respecting a Plan of Reform: by a Member of the Faculty of Advocates at the Scottish Bar." Printed in the year 1784, Edinburgh.

Union.

Union of England and Scotland this burgh is joined by Queen's-ferry, Dunfermline, Culrofs, and Stirling, in sending a member to the British Parliament.

The arable grounds in the neighbourhood of Inverkiething are in excellent order. A farmer-club is established for the encouragement of agricultural improvement and the diffusion of knowledge in rural economy. Ploughing-matchés frequently take place, and the competitors are rewarded with some distinguishing mark of merit, which has uniformly had the best effects in promoting a laudable spirit of emulation among our low-country rustics.

Inverkiething has given birth to some eminent characters of the present age : among others, to *Admiral Greig*, of the Russian Navy, little less celebrated for naval achievements than *Suworow* for mighty deeds in arms. Yet there is one who deserves better to be mentioned than either of these warriors, and who has toiled in obscurity for many years in the humble yet honourable and most useful employment of teaching youth the various branches of language and mathematics : the person alluded to, is *Robert Duncan*, schoolmaster of Inverkiething, the venerable translator of *Boethius* on the "Consolations of Philosophy." During the greater part of half a century this worthy veteran has lived contented in honest poverty *, respected and sincerely beloved by all who had the good fortune to be his pupils, among the number of whom was the Russian Admiral †.

* His whole income, including salary, does not exceed 50l. per ann.

† Since the above was written, the following notice appeared in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* of 7th August 1800 : "Died on Thursday last (31st July 1800) Mr. *Robert Duncan*, schoolmaster of Inverkiething. He discharged the duties of his office with ability, diligence, and usefulness, for fifty years and upwards."

Sir *Robert Sibbald*, the ingenious historian of Fife and Kinross, makes mention of a convent of Dominicans formerly established in Inverkiething *. Spottiswood notices but one, namely, that belonging to the Franciscans, in which “*John Gray*, a son of the Lord Gray, was here professed, and took the habit of St. Francis. He lived (continues Spottiswood) to a great age, and at the Reformation retired to Brussels, where he was murdered in the church of Franciscans, by order of the Prince of Orange’s soldiers, after that Don John of Austria had abandoned that city †”. The light of the gospel still shines with undiminished lustre in this royal burgh. Politics, it is true, mingle sometimes in ecclesiastical affairs. “Here (says the author of the Statistical Account of the parish) the inhabitants have supported or opposed, according as the promotion of the person was suitable or inimical to their political views; and they now stand distinguished in the records of the church for two successive oppositions; in the last of which, and that but lately, many of the people declared against their political rulers, and would no longer obey their unreasonable and unchristian order ‡.” Thus, it not unfrequently happens, and will continue to do so while religious establishments are professedly founded on civil rights and exclusive privileges, that jarring interest and petty politics must in their nature keep alive differences which exist in abstract and metaphysical speculations with regard to the election of spiritual guides of whatever description. As an instance in point: “Rather more than the half of the inhabitants of this parish (says the author last quoted) adhere

* Sibbald’s Hist. of Fife, p. 121.

† Hope’s Min. Pract. p. 498.

‡ Vide Stat. Acc. vol. x. p. 509.

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Freetown Bay.

London: Published by W. & A. G. Smith, 18, Pall Mall, 1840.

“ to the established church ; the rest are burghers, anti-burghers, relief, and Cameronians.—It is remarkable (continues he) that all these differences arose about church politics, and that they are kept up with the same spirit and zeal as formerly *.”

Belonging to Inverkiething, the North Queen's-ferry lies at the distance of two miles ; the road thence leading to the right. On leaving the town, Inverkiething bay, almost surrounded by eminences that sweep their ample bases on either side of this finely-formed basin, is seen at one glance : in the distance, on the opposite shore, Edinburgh appears : Leith, its harbour, and roads, form the extreme point of view ; and, if seen at the instant of sun-rise, when the horizon on a sudden becomes illuminated, in contrast with the still surface of the sea, smooth and reflective, on which appear the lengthened shadows of the leading objects, all in consenting harmony and unity as a whole, —this prospect cannot fail to interest the beholder.

The road which formerly led to the North-ferry from Inverkiething was conducted over the hill with as little regard to conveniency, as to the ease and comfort of travellers. A new line, however, much better planned, has removed the inconveniencies complained of. But, what has thus been gained in ease and convenience, is less important to the lover of picturesque beauty, than the grand and sublime prospects which the old line of road commands : therefore, the traveller on foot or on horseback has it in his power to enjoy the scenery to every advantage by keeping to the old road ; and should he who is more commodiously provided for his journey quit his equipage, and send it round by the new road, that he may ascend the hills,

* Ibid. p. 511.

he cannot fail, in contemplating the grandeur of the shores of the Frith of Forth, of deriving sufficient gratification.

Striking off to the left, we leave the road which leads round to the ferry; that which leads to Dunfermline, and along the north side of the river to Stirling, branches off to the right; and, as we ascend the old track, we discover on the left, at every step, new beauties rising in constant and varied succession. Near the summit of the hill, as we turn our faces to the north-east, the whole extent of the Forth, bounded by its northern and southern shores, beautifully indented with bays and promontories, studded with sea-port towns, country seats, and villages, and canopied by a sky wide and extended, bursts at once on the view. On the utmost verge of the horizon, like the dubious appearance of a faintly-formed cloud, the *Isle of May* is discerned. Behind the Islands of *Kieith*, *Colme*, and *Cramond*, the *Baſs* and *North-Berwick-law* form distinguishing features. Near the eye, on the same side, *Edinburgh*, with its surrounding eminences, the chief of which are *Arthur's Seat*, and its neighbouring craggy heights, rise pre-eminent, and add dignity to the scene. On the opposite coast of Fife, the promontory, terminated by the harbour of *Prettycur* swelling gradually to the hills of *Orrock* and *Duncarn*, constitutes the farther distance on the left. The entrance to the harbour of *Aberdour*, and the rocky shore of *Dinnybirſle* approaching the nearer distance, lead the eye to the harbour of *St. David's*, the shipping of which, together with such as lie at anchor, and others under sail, give interest to the grandeur of the scene; the middle area of which is filled up by the whole breadth from shore to shore of the Frith. The fore-ground is that in which we have taken our station; and, for command of
prospect,

prospect, where beauty and sublimity are found united, another such can hardly be pointed out any where along the shores of the Forth. In descending the heights of the North-ferry, the strait between it and the South-ferry comes in view, to the west of which the Frith expands into a considerable bay finely indented on either side. On the north shore, between the North-ferry and *Rosyth castle*, which is seen on a rocky point on the right, *St. Margaret's Hope* is situated near the toll-bar. This spot is said to be that on which *Margaret**, afterwards the consort of *Malcolm Canmore*, first landed on her flight from *William* the conqueror of England†, in whose right our present race

* Daughter of Edward, surnamed the *Out-law*. Of the virtues of this excellent queen, the following epigram bears ample testimony :

Prospera non lætam fecere, nec aspera tristem ;
 Prospera terror ei, aspera rifus erant :
 Non decor effecit, fragilem, non sceptræ superbam ;
 Sola potens humilis, sola pudica decens.

Perhaps there is not in all the calendar a name to be found more worthy of a place among the saints than *St. Margaret's* :

Good fortune gladden'd not her soul ; affliction caus'd no pain ;
 Prosperity inspir'd no dread ; keen grief her greatest gain :
 Her charms no weakness e'er betray'd ; a sceptre, royal state,
 Were things beneath her : modest worth alone could make her great.

This admirable princess founded several religious houses ; - among others, the church of Carlisle. Her royal consort *Malcolm Canmore* built the churches of *Dunfermline* and *Durham*, in the former of which he lies interred with many of our royal line. He was slain at the siege of *Alnwick*, together with his son *Edward*, on the 13th of Sept. 1093 ; and his queen *St. Margaret*, having heard of the fate of her husband and son, expired on the 16th of November in the same year, and was buried at *Dunfermline*. Her relics were afterwards shrined in silver set with precious stones : after having passed through various hands, they were transported to *Antwerp*, and thence to the Scottish college "at *Douay* in a bust of silver." *Hay's Scotia Sacra*, and *Annals of Scotland* by lord *Hailes*, where an interesting account of queen *Margaret* is given.

† This event forms the subject of a series of pictures painted (some of which are etched by himself, by the late *Alexander Runcimann*, on a stair-case of *Pennycuik-house*.
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this place, which were suggested in our passage over the ferry, respecting the decline of the fisheries on these shores, may not be deemed altogether foreign to the train of thought which the surrounding objects, as he surveys them, may chance to excite in the traveller's mind who prefers reflection to mere external gratification.

From the days of *Edward I.* to those of *Queen Anne*, Scotland conceived the liveliest aversion to the idea of becoming a provincial dependent of her sister kingdom. In 1602, the two nations were united under one monarch; and in 1708 the seat of empire was fixed in London, where, in consequence of a happy union, the representatives of South and North Britain met in parliament *. Thus every opposition excited by misapprehension, mistaken patriotism, religious zeal, and party spirit; thus, national antipathies, mutual animosities, injuries, and jealousies; all, all vanished at the powerful touch of the usual expedient which modern politicians know well how to use for the conversion of the audacious, obdurate, and refractory. Nearly a century has elapsed since this grand measure was adopted, the success of which has far exceeded the expectations of its warmest admirers. The massacre of Glencoe; the miseries of the Darien migration; the introduction of the excise laws; the ac-

* The union of the English and Scottish crowns was proposed in the thirteenth century by Edward I. in the marriage of his son with the Maid of Norway. This proposition was renewed by Henry VIII. who offered his son in marriage with the lovely Queen of Scots. In the seventeenth century, the two crowns being united in the person of our Sixth James, the union of the kingdoms was attempted, though in vain. This great object was once more agitated by our Second Charles: but it was a gem the most precious in the diadem of his more fortunate sister, Queen Anne, and was reserved for the eighteenth century, in which the union was accomplished.

cumulated

cumulated and accumulating system of national debt; civil broils, foreign wars, revolt of colonies, and the murmurs and discontents of the oppressed poor, are events and circumstances conjoined, which were dangerous at that critical juncture to bring under consideration. But whether any of these events, in seeming conjunction as cause and effect, have militated in any great degree against our Scottish fisheries in general, and, consequently, against the fisheries along the shores of the Frith of Forth in particular, admits of much interesting discussion, which in this place is inadmissible. One obvious circumstance, however, may be mentioned; and that is, the demand of government for seamen, and the distresses thus occasioned by letting loose press-gangs at our fishing stations; by which means the fishermen are swept away, the affrighted little ones forsake the boats and nets of their absent fathers, uncles, and brothers, our coasts become desolate, &c. &c. — — But what lies as an eternal weight on our neglected fisheries, and is perhaps not less fatal to their revival, is a *debilitated spirit of enterprize*. Our southern neighbours deem ten or fifteen thousand pounds a tolerable capital to begin the world with: we, however, relinquish the busy scene with a sum far short of that amount. This propensity is founded in that bias which our early associations take from principles inculcated in the nursery, and in the conversation of decayed gentlefolks, and old maiden aunts. Yes, to our eternal reproach, even at this day, in this advanced period of civil society, at the close of the eighteenth century, though in poverty and almost want, the ridiculous notion that *application to business contaminates the pure stream of patrician blood*, still obtains in too great measure north of the Tweed.

Hence

Hence that predilection for the profession of arms, as more honourable and exalted; while "the lower employments of life" are left to those who delight in the calm pursuits of industry and ingenuity, the best means to insure the substantial wealth, the ease, and true independence, of a nation. Long, long will it be, ere fifty, nay even five, thousand pounds will be sported as a capital by any of our sprigs of fashion, or the *fungi* that have vegetated from the antient and decayed trunks of our Scottish nobility! No; our southern neighbours, emulating the indefatigable industry of the Dutch, roused by a spirit of speculation, will come and teach us how to throw the net and drop the baited fish-hook: while we, pressed by our necessities, shall become their pilots, the protectors of their trade, and the defenders of their rights and privileges, ready to fight their battles by sea and land!

The traveller, having repassed the Forth, finds such inconvenience in landing, that he greatly wonders how it could possibly happen that so glaring an impediment at a passage so much frequented as the Queen's-ferry has been suffered to remain. At spring tides, when the sea has retired, the landing-place is inconvenient in the extreme: passengers are obliged to scramble over huge fragments of rocks and vast stones covered with seaweed, so slippery that in attempting to get over them they are in danger of falling every instant. At length, it should seem, the proprietors of this ferry are about to open their purses, in order to have a landing-place, at least on the north side, properly secured for the better accommodation of passengers*.

* See Advertisement in the Edinburgh papers, of date 19th April 1800.

Having safely landed, we may proceed hence to Edinburgh, there being little to detain us at Queen's-ferry *. Its appearance is but mean, having little or no trade ; and its commerce is in a state of almost hopeless decline. Much as this is to be lamented, unless the harbour be enlarged, and a spirit of enterprise awaken among the inhabitants, the days of prosperity, it is feared, are at a great distance. Queen's-ferry, possessing beauty and variety of scenery, and being a dry and healthy situation for sea-bathing, is a place greatly resorted to by the inhabitants of Edinburgh †.

On reaching the summit of the hill over which the road from Queen's-ferry to the metropolis is conducted, by taking a retrospective view, we command a stretch of country, rich, extensive, variegated, and picturesque, in a degree rarely to be seen. While on our passage over the ferry, we had many interesting peeps at the grand scene before us, in a variety of aspects : but, from the station here pointed out, it comes within the range of vision at one glance. The sudden contraction and almost immediate expansion of the *Firth of Forth*, are here

* The ruins of the monastery of White Friars (or Carmelites, the third order of mendicants,) are still in a state of preservation, and are to be seen at the west end of the Queen's-ferry, close by the seashore. The monastery was founded (says Spottiswood) by the lairds of Dundas in the year 1330, and was consecrated to the Virgin Mary. See Hope's Min. Pract. p. 505.

† Queen's-ferry is also a royal burgh. The burgh of Linlithgow strenuously opposed the erection of Queen's-ferry into a burgh royal, till at length the matter was compromised by mutual agreement : the chief articles were, that the freemen of Linlithgow should enjoy the privileges and immunities of the burgh of Queen's-ferry without reciprocation ; that the latter should pay the former ten merks Scots yearly ; and that, on the arrival of any foreign ships, the men of Linlithgow might purchase at pleasure [half the ship's cargo, timber excepted. See Stat. Acc. vol. xiv. p. 558.

spread

spread out beneath the eye. The abrupt, basaltic heights of the *North Ferry* pushing boldly into the Start, with *Inchgarva*, on which its castle appears, compose the right side-wing : the left is formed by the acclivities that hang over the Queen's-ferry ; beyond which, *Hopetoun house* * and beautifully ornamented grounds lead the eye to the middle distance. In the farther distance, the promontory on which Blacknefs castle is situated, behind which *Borrowstounness* is discerned, with its shipping indistinctly seen through the smoke of its salt-works, exhibits at all times a pleasing and picturesque effect. On the opposite shore, (the lengthened perspective of which is finely varied by noble sweeps, indented with variety of habitations, villages, and sea-port towns,) among other objects the ruins of *Rosyth castle* and the extensive lime-kilns belonging to the *Earl of Elgin* †, compose

* Hopetoun house is very generally visited by strangers, who rarely take the trouble with regret. The mansion itself is spacious and noble : it was begun in 1696, under the direction of that celebrated architect Sir William Bruce of Kinross, by Charles the first Earl of Hopetoun ; and it was carried on and perfected by Mr. Adams, taking nearly a century in the completion of the original plan. It contains some admirable paintings : a St. Francis, and one or two exquisite pieces by Gerard Dow, are among the best ; the death of Lucretia, by Hamilton, is a masterly performance. The situation of this palace is above all praise.

† Opposite to Hopetoun house are the earl of Elgin's lime-kilns, extending a considerable way along the shore. The stratum of limestone is in length from E. to W. a mile, and dips to the eastward. Vast galleries are formed out of the solid rock for the courses of working. The grand scale on which these works are planned and conducted is worthy of the highest admiration. The draw-kilns were begun in 1777, when nine were erected : waggon-ways and a harbour were soon after completed. The sum expended was upwards of fourteen thousand pounds sterling ; but it appears to have been laid out to much advantage, as the total annual value exceeds ten thousand pounds sterling. From eighty to ninety thousand tons of limestone are quarried annually ; and from thirty to fifty small vessels are constantly employed during the summer

compose the rich materials of the central part of this vast prospect. But what chiefly adds sublimity to the beauty of the scene, is the extreme distance, in which the *Ochill hills* and the *Grampian mountains*, towering in mid air, appear pre-eminent. The dome of sky which canopies this glorious *eye-range*, so to express it, when finely illumined, and producing a breadth of light and shade, is well adapted to raise emotions of wonder and admiration *.

About a mile S. E. of the Queensferry, we pass on the right that small but elegant antique structure, the church of Dalmeny †, the late pastor of which, Thomas Robertson, F. R. S. Edin. was distinguished among the literati of North Britain, having been the author of the *History of Mary Queen of Scotland*, and a volume on the *Fine Arts* ‡. The parish school of Dalmeny has been long celebrated as a respectable seminary for the instruction of youth in the first principles of languages and

summer months in carrying the calcined limestone. The coal mines in the neighbourhood of Lime-kilns are said to have been the earliest wrought in Scotland: so far back as the latter end of the thirteenth century coals were procured for the use of the convent of Dunfermline. See Charter dated the Feast of St. Ambrose 1291, as quoted in Stat. Acc. vol. xiii. p. 469.

* See elegant and accurate definitions of these emotions in Smith's *History of Astronomy*, "Essays on Philosophical Subjects, by Adam Smith, LL.D." p. 1.

† The style of its architecture is Saxon, or a mixed order composed of Greek and Gothic proportions. It is built entirely of hewn stone: the inside in particular is beautifully finished. Its greatest length is 84 feet, by 25 in breadth.

‡ As an historian, Dr. Robertson is respectable: but if it be true, as is reported, that he was denied by nature what is called in common language, *a musical ear*, he was not very aptly fitted to write on music, which formed the subject of the volume alluded to.

the mathematics. One of its greatest ornaments was the ingenious author of *The Epigoniad*, an epic poem, the late *William Wilkie*, D.D. a native of the village of *Echlin* in this parish, (Dalmeny,) who "in his youth cultivated a small farm, and "struggled long and hard with penury. He was afterwards "minister of *Ratbo*; and lastly professor of Natural Philosophy "in the university of *St. Andrews*, where he died in 1773, in "his 52d year *."

In the immediate neighbourhood of Queensferry, is the family residence of the laird of Dundas, chief of that name, from whom are descended the branches of the families of Arncliffe and Melville. The old castle still remains, but is uninhabited: it commands an extensive view of the surrounding country. The present proprietor, *Dundas of Dundas*, is the 24th in descent, and is possessed of a charter granted about the year 1120, which is supposed to be among the oldest of any north of the Tweed †.

We

* Professor Wilkie was the patron and friend of our ingenious Fergusson, the Scottish poet. One of his elegies commemorates his virtues, uncommon range of knowledge, and originality of genius. See Anderson's *Life of Wilkie*, in the "Poets of Great Britain;" also Campbell's *Introd. to the Hist. of Poetry in Scotland*; and *Stat. Acc.* vol. i. p. 239, *et passim*.

† "The family of Dundas of Dundas (says Robertson of Dalmeny), from which that of Arncliffe and others are derived, has been traced by genealogists back to the Saxon kings of England, and that family has uninterruptedly enjoyed a great estate in that parish, in the male line, for near seven hundred years." *Stat. Acc.* vol. i. p. 338. The Arncliffe family for three successive generations have furnished the county of Edinburgh with representatives in parliament, two of whom were first King's Advocates, and afterwards Presidents of the Court of Session; a third, at this moment treading in the footsteps of his ancestors, fills the important station of member for the county of Edinburgh and King's Advocate: "a singular instance (says Wood) of the "representatives of one family, for three successive generations, rising to the first rate
"professional

We pass on the left, near the seventh mile stone, the fine inclosures belonging to the *Earl of Roseberry*; whose family residence, *Barnbogle*, lies in a sweetly-retired nook close by the sea shore, almost within the sea-mark, the castle appearance of which is fanciful and picturesque. In the year 1597, a duel, licenced by royal authority, was fought on the sea beach at Barnbogle, to witness which an immense concourse of nobility and gentry were convened, as appears from the following excerpts: "The 22 day of December (1596) Stephen Brunfield slaine upone Sanct Leonardis Craigis as apeirs be James Carmichael, second sone to the laird of Carmichael."—"The 15th of Marche (1597) ane singill combat foughtin betwixt Adam Bruntfield and James Carmichael. The said Adam Bruntfield challengit James Carmichael for murthuring of his unqle brother Stephen Bruntfield, Captaine of Tantulton. The said Adam purchasit ane licence from his M. (majesty) and faught the said James on Barnbogle links, before fyve thousand gentilmen;

"professional knowledge, rank and practice, and enjoying, as it were by inheritance, the "highest honours in the power of their sovereign to confer, or their countrymen to "bestow." See Wood's Ancient and Modern State of the Parish of Cramond, p. 27. A striking contrast to this peculiar instance of the reward of merit, is exhibited in the decline and fall of the Mowbrays of Barnbogle, the male representative of whom, reduced to the condition of a common labourer, is said to be still living within a small distance of the seat of his ancestors, Barnbogle—"for thirteen generations (says the author last quoted) the property of the illustrious Norman family of Mowbray, the last of whom, Sir Robert Mowbray of Barnbogle, was obliged, through debts and other misfortunes, to dispose of his noble inheritance in the year 1615, to Thomas Lord Binning, afterwards created Earl of Haddington; from whose grandson, John fourth earl of Haddington, Barnbogle was purchased, in 1662, by Sir Archibald Primrose of Carrington, Lord Register of Scotland. From this able statesman Barnbogle came by descent to his great-grandson Niel, third and present earl of Roseberry." Ibid. p. 72.

and the said Adam being bot ane zoung man, and of a mein stature, slew the said James Carmichael, he being as abill a lyke man as wes in living."—"Yai mett (says a contemporary writer) in ane small inche be ye sic neir to Barnbugell; my lord duke and sundrie utheris being thair judges*." Here, then, is a striking trait of the barbarity of our Scottish ancestors two centuries back; but to refine on this miserable relic of chivalry, not only in practice, but in grave disquisition, was left to the enlightened philosophy of the eighteenth century. A French gentleman, asking in marriage a young lady, the niece and heiress, from her uncle, met with a rebuff in these terms: "Friend, it is not yet time to marry: I will tell you what you must do; if you will be a brave man, you must kill, in single combat, two or three men, then afterwards marry and engender two or three children, *or the world will neither have got nor lost by you!*" Arnot, who mentions this in his history of Edinburgh, makes the following remark: "Although we may lament the dismal consequences which flowed from this romantic and ferocious spirit of duelling, when it flourished in all its extravagance, yet we cannot help observing, that it has been productive of very important and beneficial consequences: as it introduced a politeness of manners, a jealous watchfulness of honour, which had not hitherto prevailed in any stage of society. A pure virtue (continues this author) unaffected by passion, and incorruptible by interest, although it may be found in an individual in an age, yet it has never been so general in any stage of society as to be productive of material and universal influence. We may,

* See Birrel's Diary, p. 40. 42, and note (k).

" therefore

"therefore, think ourselves happy by the introduction of
 "honour to its aid; a principle little less meritorious in itself,
 "and, when stripped of the romantic ideas which were once en-
 "tertained concerning it, productive of nearly as many good
 "consequences to society *." Thus, then, *honour* is a substitute
 for *virtue*, the laws of which are brought to the point of the
 sword or the muzzle of the pistol! If dignity and reputation be
 admitted in the definition of *honour*, hear what the great moralist
Johnson says:—"Among the *Symerons*, or fugitive negroes, in
 "the South Seas, being a nation that does not set them above
 "continual cares for the immediate necessities of life, he that
 "can temper iron best, is among them most esteemed: and
 "perhaps it would be happy for every nation, if *honours* and
 "applause were justly distributed, and he were most distinguished
 "whose abilities were most useful to society. How many
 "chimerical titles to precedence, how many false pretences to
 "respect, would this rule bring to the ground †!" But, ob-
 serves another celebrated writer ‡, "*A man of honour*, deprived
 "of the esteem of others, foresees that he must be reduced either
 "to a solitary existence insupportable to a social creature, or
 "become the object of perpetual insult."—"From the necessity
 "of the esteem of others, have arisen single combats, and they
 "have been established by the anarchy of the laws §."—"Do
 not

* See Arnot's Hist. of Edin. p. 70, 71.

† Johnson's Lives of the Poets, (Drake,) p. 175.

‡ Beccaria of Milan on Crimes and Punishments.

§ Authors do not seem agreed with respect to the origin of duelling. "The origin of
 private duels from judicial combats is palpable; as in public crimes, these were appealed
 " to

“ not confound the sacred name of *honour* (says Rousseau) with
 “ the brutal custom founded on prejudice, which places all vir-
 “ tue in the point of the sword, and is proper only to make brave
 “ villains.” “ What would a man do, who is willing to com-
 ply with the fashion of duelling, in places where a contrary
 custom prevails? At Messina or Naples, he would wait for a
 man at the corner of a street, and stab him behind; in these
 countries this is called *bravery*, and *honour* does not consist in
 being killed yourself by your enemy, but in killing him. When
 shall this fashion be exploded? While our statesmen think it
 not inconsistent with their duty to give the meeting with fire-
 arms in their hands, what avails restitution by law?—and, in
 open defiance of the articles of war, our officers of the navy and
 army take the field in single combat: what an example of dis-
 cipline!—“ The soldier who has not *courage enough* to profess,
 “ on all occasions, a strict obedience to the *laws of his Country*,
 “ according to the dictates of his *own reason and conscience*, in
 “ *preference to every command and every other opinion whatever*,
 “ is unworthy of the British military service; being qualified
 “ rather to be enlisted with the slavish troops of the *Grand*
 “ *Turk*; or to serve in the black banditti of the emperor of Mo-

“ to as decisive between guilt and innocence; so in private insults, an appeal, similar in
 “ its warlike spirit, and uncertain event, was made for the reparation of injured honour.
 “ In the latter stages of the æra we describe (viz. the age of chivalry) duels not only in
 “ Scotland, but all over Europe, flourished in all their absurdity. In this country they
 “ had become so frequent, and upon such trivial occasions, that, although formerly toler-
 “ ated, it was found necessary to impose on them this restriction, *that they should not be*
 “ *fought without royal licence* :”—an example of which *royal licence* is narrated above.
 See Arnot's Hist. of Edin. p. 70.

“ FOCCO.”

“rocco*!” Duelling, therefore, has surely but one thing to recommend it, and that to the fungi of fashion, namely *absurdity*!

It must be allowed, that the inhabitants of the section of our island which lies north of the Tweed, are at least a century behind their southern neighbours in almost every species of ingenuity and industry, except agriculture, in which art no traveller who has visited the various parts which these pages notice, will deny the want of skill and proper management in all its departments, to the occupants of either our highland or lowland districts. As we approach the city, this advanced state of agricultural improvements is observable in a striking degree. The manure procured from the streets of Edinburgh, no doubt, contributes greatly to the enriching of the ground; but the mode of culture here followed, and universally adopted in every quarter of the country, is the chief cause. The leading maxims of this mode are, *to keep clear of weeds; to time well your labours; to watch every favourable moment in seed time and harvest; to keep a strict eye over the most minute article of whatever regards servants, cattle, and farming utensils*, and, in doing so you have every reason to expect grateful returns in the fruits of your labour: above all, *keep clear of weeds*; concentrate, and bring the powers of vegetation into action on whatever you intend shall be the product of the field; then, and then only, have you reason to anticipate the joyful increase of *tenfold*. It must be confessed, that an unaccountable appearance of neglect in point of keeping clear of weeds, is observable as we pass along the road from Queen’s-ferry to Edinburgh. This foulness of the land is said to arise from using as manure the great abundance

* See “Remarks on Writers on Crown Law.”

of dung procured from the streets; but this circumstance is by no means sufficient to account for the fact, which is certainly owing in no small degree to negligence and mismanagement.

Within the last fifty years (before which period two thirds of Scotland were in a state of nature with regard to agriculture) the rapid advance in rural economy is almost incredible. Formerly, as soon as seed time was over, which was usually about the 20th of May, the implements of the field were laid up, till after the crop was reaped and brought into the stack yard. No summer fallowing, no green crops whatever, such as turnips and potatoes, were heard of. The fields yielded scanty returns,—man and beast fared ill in the winter, and more especially in spring time. The case is now almost completely reversed. Our fields yield abundantly; our farmers live comfortably, and are enabled to educate, clothe, and portion out their children as handsomely in most instances as the landholders; while our peasantry, in more comfortable subsistence, manners, and appearance, justify the known and acknowledged fact, that “as the land produces, so population increases*.” May contentment, and the sweets of civil and political freedom, be the happy concomitants of a land where corn abounds, and where the produce of the dairy is competent to procure the artificial necessities of the table and the toilet, as well as the decent ornaments of furniture and of art!

About five miles from Edinburgh we pass by *Cramond-bridge* over the river *Almond*, which falls into the sea about a mile to the left. This bridge consists of three arches, each about 40 feet in diameter. It is by far too narrow, the breadth within

* Wood's Ancient and Modern State of Cramond, p. 117.

the walls being of 14 feet only *. So poor a bridge on so much frequented a road, in the immediate vicinity of a great city, is surely a public reproach. The view as we pass Cramond bridge, on either hand, is truly pleasing. The banks of the Amond are rural and picturesque, especially near *Craig-hall*, the seat and property of William Hope Weir, Esq. To him it descended from one of the greatest men Scotland ever had to boast, namely, Sir *Thomas Hope* †, of Craighall, a bold, intrepid, and consummate statesman, an able and profound lawyer, an accomplished scholar, and an elegant poet; who, in the infancy of the Presbyterian form of religion, with uncommon address and manly spirit, espoused the cause, and, in spite of every attempt to influence and even browbeat him, maintained his dignity and probity, till the great work was fairly beyond the reach of danger. His gains procured him vast landed property, the greater part of which his descendants enjoy to this day ‡.

Soon

* About a mile below the bridge, the iron works of Caddel and Edington are situated, consisting of mills for slitting iron and rolling hoops, and forges for converting iron into steel: there also spades, shovels, nails, &c. are manufactured.

† Sometime advocate to Charles I.

‡ The family of Hope has furnished the Scottish bar with able lawyers ever since the time of their great progenitor Sir Thomas Hope, advocate to Charles I. from the fourth son of whom the present Earl of Hopetoun is also descended. The shafts of calumny fell thick around the Presbyterian champion Sir Thomas, directed by the royalists of Charles the First's time. Hope first brought himself into notice by pleading the cause of six Presbyterian preachers who were tried at Linlithgow, 10th Jan. 1606, for high treason, the principal charge against whom was, their denying the king and council's supremacy in ecclesiastical affairs. In cases of this nature, whoever undertakes to defend culprits stands in a delicate predicament. The king (James VI.) and his court made no secret of declaring, that the daring advocate of such foul sedition and treason should forfeit all claims to future favour. The more wily lawyers avoided in-

Soon after leaving Cramond-bridge, the road strikes off to the right and left; the left leads to *Cramond*; the right, to *Edinburgh*. This sudden turn of the road is occasioned by avoiding the inclosures of *Cramond Regis*, the birth-place of the author last quoted, to whom the present writer acknowledges himself indebted for much pleasing instruction from his learned and ingenious publication*, from which the greater portion of what regards this part of our journey is taken. The road on a sudden strikes once more at right angles to the left, the direct line

terfering in any manner, lest the ruling powers should take offence. Hope alone undertook the defence of the unfortunate servants of the Lord Jesus Christ. But the servants of the crown, faithful to their own interests, as well as to those of their master, failed not in *their* duty: yet "notwithstanding (says Mr. Wood) the reiterated endeavours of the court to perplex and browbeat him, (Hope) conducted it (their defence) in so skilful and *masterly* a manner that he made a deep impression on the jury. However, by unlawful tampering with the jurors (some of the lords of council having procured admittance to them after they were locked up), and assurances that no harm was intended against the person or goods of the pannels, nine out of the fifteen jurymen were induced to bring in a verdict of *guilty*." Wood's *Ancient and Modern State of Cramond*, p. 133. See also Calderwood's *History of the Church of Scotland*.

Dr. Arthur Johnston, physician to Charles I. and the friend of Hope, complimented him in an elegant set of Latin verses, to be seen in the *Poetarum Scotorum Musæ Sacre*. Hope's Works, besides his law tracts, viz. *Major and Minor Practicks*, *Paratela*, *ex universo Juris Corpore*, were, in verse, *Carmen Seculare*, in *serenissimum CAROLUM I. Britanniarum Monarcham*. Edin. 1626; and *Psalmi Davidis et Canticum Solomonis Latino carmine redditum*, MS.; besides a tract on genealogy.

* "The *Ancient and Modern State of the Parish of Cramond, &c.* by John Philip Wood, Esq." What is singular with regard to this gentleman is, that he has been deaf ever since his birth, — and for a time, as usually is the case, was incapable of communicating his thoughts by articulate language. This faculty, however, he now possesses in a wonderful degree. He was the pupil of *Braidwood*, and was one of his most accomplished students. This will not be thought more than fair and honest commendation, when the work alluded to is perused. The present writer is totally unknown to Mr. Wood, and most likely may ever remain so.

leading to Edinburgh by *Corstorphine*,—we keep on the left the extensive parks of *Barntoun* *, the present owner of which is *William Ramsay*, Esq. banker in Edinburgh.

Immediately on passing the gate which leads to Barntoun-house, the city and surrounding country, together with the sea and the coasts of Lothian and Fife, burst at once on the eye of the traveller. So magnificent a scene as this presents is not to be described.

Between us and the sea, Lauriston is situated, the road to which, and to *Nether Cramond*, strikes off to the left. This old frail mansion, with the lands adjacent, was once the property of JOHN LAW, *Comptroller General of the Finances of France* (in whose right, M. LAW de *Lauriston*, *Marechal de Camp*, still retains the property). The vicissitudes in the life of this singular man are worthy of particular notice. Born with every prospect of independence and regard, he sank into disesteem, penury, and neglect; and, far from his native land, aged, and bowed down with disappointment and affliction, he died in a state but little removed from the extreme of indigence.

John Law of *Lauriston*, the fourth son of William Law and Jean Campbell his wife, was born at Edinburgh on the 21st of April 1671; in which city his father being in business as a goldsmith, and having acquired considerable property in money, made a purchase of the lands of Lauriston in the parish of

* *Barntoun*, once the property of the family of *Elphinston*, one of whom, namely, Arthur, sixth *Lord of Balmerinock*, was beheaded on Tower-hill, on the 18th of August 1746, at which time lord Kilmarnock, who had embarked in the same cause, also suffered. The ancestor of the former, viz. John, second lord Balmerinock, narrowly escaped decollation in the reign of Charles I. for opposing the tyrannical measures of that king.

Cramond, in the county of Mid-Lothian. The usual time allotted to literary acquirements young Law spent to much advantage. A natural disposition for studying mathematics, particularly the practical departments of geography, arithmetic, and algebra, led him gradually into the profound depths of political economy and finance; and, having published on these subjects, he attracted the notice of some considerable personages high in power, among whom were the *first Duke of Argyle*, and *the Marquis of Tweeddale*. At that period Scotland was brought to the lowest ebb in trade, manufactures, and commerce: the miscarriage of the Darien migration, indeed, was the principal cause of this disarrangement and all its fatal consequences. It was reserved for the genius of LAW to propose a scheme*, by which commissioners appointed under the controul of Parliament should have power to issue notes, and to cause them to circulate in any of these three ways; 1st, in the way of loan, at ordinary interest, upon landed security, the debt not to exceed half or two thirds of the value of the land; 2dly, to give out the full price of lands in notes, and to enter into possession thereof by wadset, redeemable within a certain period; and, 3dly, to give out in notes the full price of land upon sale irredeemably. Thus all the notes being firmly

* (*i.e.*) "Proposals and Reasons for constituting a Council of Trade," dated Edinburgh, 31 December 1700.—"In this work (says his biographer) he submits to the public a plan for reviving, encouraging, and promoting the trade and manufactures of the kingdom. This council of trade (continues this author) should be vested in the whole of the king's revenues, the bishops' lands and rents, all charitable mortifications and approbations, one-tenth of all grain raised and malt made in the kingdom, one-twentieth of all sums sued for at law, one fortieth of all successions, legacies, and sales, and some other articles too long to be enumerated."—See Wood's Life of Law. In the year 1700, Law published at Edinburgh a work intitled, "Money and Trade considered, with a Proposal of supplying the Nation with Money," on occasion of the insolvency of the bank, scarcity of specie, and consequent embarrassment in Scotland.

secured.

secured on landed property, he (*Law*) asserted, that they would not only be equal in value to gold and silver money of the same denomination, but be preferred to those metals, as not being liable to fall in value like them.

“ This scheme (says Wood), although founded on incontrovertible principles, and supported by the united weight of the court party, and of that called the *Squadron** (a few monied men excepted), headed by the duke of Argyle and the marquis of Tweeddale, had the fate to be rejected in parliament, the House passing a resolve, “ That to establish any kind of paper credit, so as to oblige it to pass, was an improper expedient for the nation.” The rejection of the scheme was occasioned, it is said, by an apprehension that, if it took effect, all the estates in the kingdom would thereby be brought to a complete dependence upon government †.”

Finding those schemes rejected which he thought calculated to raise his native country to a pitch of grandeur beyond any other in Europe, our projector set out in disgust in search of fortune and reputation elsewhere, carrying with him his personal attractions, which are said to have been extremely engaging, as his manners were insinuating. These, together with his admirable skill as a gamester, gained him easy access to the licentious, the profligate, and the great; by which means he was enabled to become the architect of his splendid fortune,

* *Squadron Volante*, as it was called, was a party so denominated in the Scottish parliament, from the circumstance of not attaching themselves either to the Ministry or the Opposition, but acting as occasion required. That party now throwing their interest into the preponderating scale when the union of England and Scotland was on the tapis, brought that much wished for event to an issue very unexpectedly.

† Wood's Life of Law of Lauriston; also Carnwarth's Memoirs.

and:

and the disposer of the favours of the fickle deity, whose faithless smiles allure but too fatally her purblind and fascinated votaries. *Law* was a profound adept in calculating chances: hence arose his wonderful seeming good luck at *Faro*, which was his favourite game: his gains were immense wherever he tried his skill, and good fortune was his constant attendant. After having visited the principal cities of Holland, Germany, Hungary, and Italy, he fixed his residence at Paris; where, connecting himself with the first monied men of that great city, about the time when *Louis XIV.* paid the debt of nature, he commenced banker; and having laid open his plans for retrieving the French finances from the ruinous state into which they had been thrown by the long, expensive, and bloody warfare of the great Louis, he received the countenance required. "In short" (says Wood), such was the state of affairs, that it had been "debated in council, and proposed to the Regent (*Duc d'Orleans*), to expunge at once the debts of the state by a national "bankruptcy." *Law*, at this critical conjuncture, with a spirit of dauntless enterprise, stepped boldly forward, and snatched from the very brink of ruin the first nation of the universe. He soon impressed on the public mind the favourite maxim contained in his writings, *viz.* "That the power and prosperity "of a state increase in proportion to the quantity of money "circulating therein;" and, "that even the richest nations have not specie sufficient to afford full employment to all their inhabitants, and to carry their trade to the height of which it is capable;" hence "the advantages of paper credit for supplying that defect *." After some length of time, and at first no small

* See Wood's Life of Law.

degree of opposition, *John Law* gradually rose from a private station to the first rank among the citizens of France; and the money association, of which he was the chief, being converted into a *royal bank*, as a fit object to support the expences of the state, he developed his splendid project of the grand commercial undertaking called THE MISSISSIPPI SYSTEM, which turned the heads of all ranks, from the lowest to the highest, in every province throughout France. Our financier was now regarded as a prodigy: but in the height of his prosperity he lost not sight of his character either as a man or a statesman. On the 5th of January 1720, *John Law* of Lauriston, native of Edinburgh, was raised to the high office of *Comptroller General of the Finances of France*; a station which he filled in a manner worthy of a first minister of state. While thus exalted, all ranks and conditions, eager to court the smiles of the Premier, paid homage to his rare talents, and sought every opportunity to find favour in his sight. Meanwhile the Mississippi system gained popularity, though it verged at last to the very extreme of visionary speculation. The divine, the lawyer, the rhetorician, the soldier, the merchant,—from princes of the blood to the lowest of the people, vied with each other in the pursuit of one and the same object, the *Mississippi system*, the colonization and culture of *Louisiana*, esteemed the modern Peru, and nought inferior to the wealth and fertility of the Spanish dominion in Southern Columbia. The mind of almost every individual in France seemed absorbed in the rise and fall of the shares, or *actions*, as they were called. As an instance of the effects of this national mania, an anecdote related of *M. Chirac*, first physician to the Regent *Duc d'Orleans*, is calculated to exhibit a lively

tively outline. This celebrated physician, who was deeply interested in the Mississippi system, was on his way to a female patient, when hearing it rumoured that a fall in *actions* had taken place, he was so much lost in thought on entering the chamber of the sick lady, that while he held her arm in the act of feeling her pulse, he exclaimed in seeming agitation, "O good God! it falls, it falls!" Alarmed at this unlooked-for and unexpected crisis, the poor patient sprung up, and began to ring the bell with great emotion, calling in all the agony of apprehension, "I am gone! oh, I am a dead woman!" The physician, recovering from his reverie, quieted the fears of the distracted lady, by telling her, it was the *actions*, the precious *actions*, that were falling, not her pulse; for that he had never felt it beat more full, regular, and soft, in the whole course of his practice*.

The surrounding nations of Europe beheld the system of finance of France, at the head of which was its accomplished founder, with a jealous eye. Its downfall, therefore, was "a

* A similar anecdote is related of a medical practitioner of Coupar in Fife, who was so keenly engaged in agricultural speculation, that he sometimes suffered his attention to be drawn to these when his mind ought to have been bent on the cases of patients. One day, as the Doctor was superintending a small farm in the near neighbourhood of Dundee, he was suddenly called away to a lady whose case he had long been familiar with; and while she was telling him, in the usual way, her feelings, and enumerating her distresses, the Doctor, though apparently listening with concern, was, in fact, looking to the field which he had been called from, and ruminating on what he should do with it. All at once, the lady cries out in great anguish, "Oh, my head! what shall I do with my head?" To which the physician replied, "Well; I shall plant it with potatoes."—"What! my head? Good God! plant my head with potatoes!" The Doctor, ashamed of his absence, assured his patient it was the farthest thing from his intention, and told her he would send something that would relieve her immediately.

consummation devoutly to be wished." The mine which was to overthrow the Mississippi system was in preparation, and ready for the favourable moment of explosion. The match was lighted, the signal given, and in an instant the grand superstructure is levelled with the dust! France trembles to the centre; her existence as a nation is threatened; the greatest monarchy of Europe is ready to fall: in one word, the Royal Bank of France*, with the Mississippi system which had been united to it, were declared insolvent; and a national bankruptcy was the immediate consequence. Overwhelmed with popular clamour, Law, in order to escape the fury of the disappointed and enraged multitude, left the kingdom. So nicely poised is the doubtful beam to which are appended the scales containing our good and bad fortunes, that the slightest touch is sufficient to disturb the equipoise; and which shall preponderate the mere accident is competent to decide. Thus it happened, when our comptroller-general was in the zenith of prosperity and power, he fell to the depths of adversity, impotence, and execration. Yet all this he bore as became a man possessed of mental powers adequate to the trying situations in which his sudden reverses placed him.

* As soon as it was understood that an immense drain of specie had taken place to foreign parts by various and multiform means, an extraordinary run on the bank was the consequence; in order to prevent which, an edict was issued, forbidding any attempt to hoard gold and silver coins, which by this time had become rare in the extreme: a second edict was also published, prohibiting any payment whatever to be made in specie; which latter edict took effect 11th March 1720. Not long after this event, a third edict, more calamitous than either of the two former, came forth; namely, for reducing the paper money in circulation to one half its original value, by which, a man who the preceding day was worth 10,000 l. found himself that day worth only half the sum, and could not convert even that half into specie.

Having effected his escape from France, *Law* travelled through various parts of the continent; after which he settled in London, and during his residence in that city experienced several difficulties, arising chiefly from an ill-grounded apprehension of his vast wealth, and consequent power and influence. But, in the year 1725, he quitted England, and retired to Venice; where he lived, "the world forgetting, by the world forgot," in obscurity and extreme indigence, till, in the 58th year of his age, he breathed his last, *anno* 1729. In person, it is said, he was truly engaging; in mental acquirements, far superior to common men: but, with respect to moral rectitude, he moved in a sphere in which gamesters, rakes, and men of fashion, allow of no bounds, but such as passion points out, and bodily constitution prescribes. Such, then, is a slight outline of the checkered life of *Law* of Lauristoun, comptroller-general of the finances of France*.

A short distance to the north-east of Lauristoun is Muirhouse, lately the property of Lieutenant-general *Robert Watson*, deputy governor of Plymouth. This gentleman, falling into decayed circumstances, was obliged to sell the lands of Muirhouse to satisfy his creditors; after which, he retired to the earl of Morton's seat at Aberdour on the opposite side of the Forth, and there died on the 10th of May 1791, aged 64; leaving the small remains of his fortune to two of his faithful domestics†. What is not a little singular in Scotland, in which great part of the landed property is entailed, the lands of Muirhouse have passed through the hands of five different purchasers since the

* See Wood's *Life of Law*.

† *Ibid*.

year 1616, before which period they had been in the possession of one family three hundred years.

A little to the north-east, close by the sea-shore, the fields and inclosures of *Grantoun* and *Roystoun*, now called *Caroline Park*, are situated. Grantoun* was for some time the residence of the celebrated Scottish lawyer Sir *Thomas Hope* of *Craigiehall*, already noticed; and at Roystoun resided Sir *George Mackenzie* of *Tarbart*, afterwards *Earl of Cromarty*; a no less crafty and subtle statesman than him whom he opposed, and eventually, on his downfall, succeeded, (namely, the noted *Duke of Lauderdale*;) in the year 1678, and became prime minister of Scotland till the Revolution. Obtaining pardon for all crimes and misdemeanours, he retired to his paternal seat in Rosshire, where he died at the advanced age of 84, a few days before his royal mistress *Queen Anne*, who breathed her last in August 1714. From the year 1763 to 1780, the mansion-house of *Caroline Park* and the fields adjacent were in the possession of the late Sir *James Adolphus Oughton*, K. B. deputy commander in chief of the land forces in Scotland. To the character of a soldier he united the humanity and mental acquirements of a man of letters. Among other studies, he bestowed no small attention in acquiring a certain degree of knowledge in the Gaelic language, with an intention of understanding the poems ascribed to *Ossian* in the original. It is worthy of remark, that Sir *James A. Oughton*, and the late Sir *James Fowles* of *Collington*, were of

* Grantoun was farmed by the predecessors of the present Professor of Anatomy in Trinity College, Dublin, Dr. *James Cleghorn*; he succeeded his uncle Dr. *George Cleghorn* (who may be justly considered the father of the anatomical school in Ireland) in the year 1790.

the very few, whom curiosity prompted to learn the Gaelic language for the purpose of listening to the wild and energetic fancies, the plaintive and soothing songs, of our Celtic bards. But Caroline Park is also celebrated in Scottish and English histories, as being the spot where the earl of *Hertford* landed his troops in the year 1544, at the command of Henry VIII. in order to take vengeance on the Scots for having refused their young queen to the English monarch's son, Edward, in marriage *.

Approaching the town, near the third mile-stone we take the road which strikes off to the right (that which is in the direct line leading to Leith), and, passing by *Dryly* on the left, we soon after fall in with, situated at the base of the Corstorphine hills, Craigcrook, and Ravelstoun on the right, the new road to Edinburgh by Stockbridge, at *Craigleith* quarry, out of which the massy pillars of the New College were hewn. Most part of the modern houses about Edinburgh are built of the same stone, which is of a beautiful appearance and fine texture.

DRAYLAW house is at present possessed by the Solicitor-general of *Scotland*, *Robert Blair*, Esq. son of the celebrated author of "The Grave, a poem †." This admirable performance lay for several years neglected, till its merit as a poetical composition was gradually brought into notice. Its ingenious author was born about the beginning of the eighteenth century. He was educated at the university of Edinburgh, and was put in orders

* See an account of this expedition in Dalzel's *Fragments of Scottish History*, printed by Constable, Edinburgh, 1798.

† See Anderson's *Life of Blair*, author of *The Grave*, a poem; see also Campbell's *Introduct. to the Hist. of Poetry in Scotland*, p. 233.

and

and appointed to the living of *Althelstaneford* in East Lothian in January 1731. There he passed the remainder of his life; and died on the 4th *February* 1746. He was succeeded in this living by the author of *Douglas*, a tragedy, *John Home*, Esq. The kinsman of the author of "The Grave," the late Dr. *Hugh Blair*, Professor of Rhetoric and Belles Lettres in the University of Edinburgh, is well known by his elegant compositions on the Belles Lettres, and five volumes of Sermons, now translated into most of the languages of the continent.

Craigcrook, seen in the hollow at the foot of Corstorphine hill, was, in the year 1712, left by the will of *John Strachan*, writer to his majesty's signet, as a fund for decayed "old men, women, and orphans," whose pensions individually should not exceed 5*l.* Sterling *per annum*; with this limitation, that no old persons, under the age of sixty-five, nor any orphans above the age of twelve, should be admitted pensioners of the foundation. The old mansion-house of Craigcrook is now occupied as an asylum for lunatics, under the direction of some medical practitioners in Edinburgh.

Ravelstoun, the sweetly retired residence of Mr. *Keith*, is also situated in the hollow at the foot of Corstorphine hill. On a wooded eminence we discern from the road a Grecian temple fancifully placed near the summit, which produces a picturesque and pleasing effect.

From Craigeleith quarry (which it is well worth stepping aside to look into) some fine prospects are commanded; particularly one of Edinburgh and the shores of the Frith of Forth on either side to a vast distance. This scene is truly grand. Proceeding, we observe on the left the neat and comfortable mansion, commanding

manding a full view of this extensive landscape, newly built by Mr. *David Ramsay*, editor of the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*. Farther on, one or two more summer retreats attract notice; and, crossing the water of Leith by Stockbridge, we ascend the easy slope to Queen's-street: then passing from North to South Frederick-street, we arrive at St. Andrew's-street, whence we took our departure.

A descriptive and historical sketch, with a view of the society and manners, of Edinburgh and its immediate neighbourhood, are the subjects that remain for further discussion: and, in order to condense these several topics as much as is consistent with the scope and importance of each, brevity shall be observed in description; history shall be sketched lightly in outline; and a view of society and manners, together with a few cursory remarks on the advancement that literature has made since the commencement of the eighteenth century in the capital of Scotland, shall be slightly touched; lest digression should lead into mazes more intricate than belong to works of so general a nature as the present.

Strangers, it is said, are struck at first sight with the remarkable appearance which Edinburgh exhibits in whatever direction it is approached; but, as there are stations which command views of this ancient city to advantage, as well as prospects of the surrounding country to a great distance, in almost every direction, the author of these pages will endeavour, to the best of his power, to point out the several spots whence the traveller may behold this magnificent scenery; concerning which it is universally allowed, that, where the beautiful and sublime are so happily blended, few have an opportunity of contemplating any

thing that exceeds it, either in this island or on the continent of Europe.

In order that all which is worthy of notice in and about Edinburgh may be viewed with ease and advantage, certain portions of time should be set apart for visits to whatever may be deemed curious or remarkable in the city, for rambles in the immediate vicinity, and for short excursions to some parts hereafter to be pointed out in the country around it.

Should the stranger who visits the Scottish capital lodge in the New Town, as most likely will be the case, let him, instead of at once proceeding by the North bridge to the old town, take a more circuitous direction westward by Princes Street; thence along the Lothian-road, keeping St. Cuthbert's church on the left; and then strike off where the way, over which the Castle is seen impending, leads to the west gate of the city. On coming to the turn where the road is conducted round the base of the rock, the beholder is struck with the imposing aspect which this huge head-long steep exhibits, abrupt and bold, seeming to bend in gloomy dignity over the swampy level, which but lately was a dark unhealthy pool, viz. the North-loch. Still, as we proceed, the giddy height of the castle, the foundation of whose walls are far above our heads, raise in the mind a sensation of apprehended danger. Immense blocks of basalt seem loosened, and as if ready to precipitate their ponderous dimensions down the almost perpendicular precipice. This singular appearance is contrasted with an area on the right, strewed with the skeletons of horses, the remains of carcases devoured by the swine * and dogs of the neighbourhood; a nuisance which calls

* The swine thus fed are sold to the Edinburgh butchers, and exposed by them on their stalls as *country-fed-pork*: rare *tis-bits* for our citizens truly!

loudly

loudly for removal ; a disgrace to a city which boasts of improvement, and a strict regard to every thing elegant and decorous.

Passing by this wretched suburb, we enter the city by what was formerly called the *West Port*, through which our first Charles made his public entry into Edinburgh in the year 1633. The joy manifested by the citizens of all descriptions, on this memorable occasion, is narrated with due care by some of our Scottish historians *. But these tokens of enthusiastic loyalty were soon succeeded by scenes of insurrection, which ended in

* “ At the West-port (says Spalding) his Majesty had an eloquent speech making him welcome, and the keys of the town offered him by the speaker as he entered in. and upon the south of the same port Alexander Clerk, then provost of Edinburgh, with the bailies all clad in red robes, well furred, and about three score of the aldermen and counsellors clad all in black velvet gowns, were sitting all upon seats of deals for the purpose, bigged (built) of three degrees, frae the whilk they all raise in great humility and reverence to his majesty ; and the said Alexander Clerk, provost, in the name of the rest and town of Edinburgh, made some short speech, and there-with presented to his majesty a bason all of gold, estimated at five thousand merks, wherein was shacken out of an embroidered purse a thousand golden double angels, as a token of the town of Edinburgh their love and humble service. The king looked gladly upon the gifts and speech both ; but the marquis of Hamilton, master of his majesty’s horse, hard beside, meddled with the gift, as due to him in virtue of his office. Thereafter the provost (mayor) went to his horse in good order, having a rich saddle with a black velvet foot mantle, with pascements of gold, and the rest of the furniture conform, who with the bailies and counsellors on their foot, attended his majesty. As he is going up the Upper Bow, there came a brave company of town soldiers all clad in white satin doublets, black velvet breeches, and silk stockings, with hats, feathers, scarfs, bands, and the rest correspondent. These gallants had dainty muskets, picks, and gilded partizans, and sick like, and guarded his majesty.” See History of the Troubles in Scotland from the year 1624 to 1645, by John Spalding, then Commissary Clerk of Aberdeen. The sumptuous and ridiculous pageantry displayed on this occasion, at which assisted, Adamson, the Principal of the University, and the celebrated poet Drummond of Hawthornden, cost the city of Edinburgh the sum of 41,489l. 7s. Scots ; about 3500l. sterling. See Arnot’s Hist. of Edin. p. 103 ; also Maitland’s History of Edin. p. 63, *et seq.*

the

the death of Charles, and the overthrow of the kingly government.

On entering the *Grass-market*, the spacious area and ancient appearance of the houses on either side of the street will, most probably, exhibit to the eye of a stranger an air of antiquity by no means ill calculated to produce a characteristic impression of what in former times the Scottish capital displayed in point of amplitude, and relative elegance of building. On this account, perhaps, the west entrance to the city was that fixed on by the magistrates to receive their native prince previous to the ceremony of his coronation, which took place in the abbey church of Holyrood-house on the 18th of June 1633.

In order to command a prospect of the city and surrounding country, we should ascend the castle hill by the lane on the left, called the Castle-wind. On the left appear two thatched houses, a specimen of the manner in which most of the houses in the suburbs were roofed formerly. The *Gaelic chapel* is the next object met with on the same side, which, by the inscription above the main door, appears to have been built in the year 1769*.

An

* The *Gaelic chapel* or *Earse chapel* as it is called, was begun in 1767, and fitted up for the reception of a highland congregation in 1769. At first, Mr. *Joseph Robertson Magrigo*, a native of Perthshire, as yet a probationer for holy orders, admonished such as gathered together for prayer and praise from the precentor's (clerk's) desk; and soon after he had obtained licence as a preacher of the gospel, from the presbytery of Edinburgh, he was unanimously chosen as the established minister of this house of public worship, which duty he has faithfully discharged upwards of thirty years. One of the zealous promoters of this religious establishment (namely William Dickson, a dyer by profession), was a pious citizen of Edinburgh, utterly unconnected with the natives of our highland districts. He purchased the spot on which the chapel is

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erected

An excellent road of easy ascent has been lately formed, which leads to the castle; and, but for one circumstance, reminding us of the imperfection of human nature, would be one of the chief improvements among the many lately adopted in and about Edinburgh. The first striking object that comes in view as we ascend the castle hill is *Herriot's Hospital*, an admirable structure, begun in the year 1628; and which, after an interruption caused by the commotions during the reign of the unfortunate Charles I. was again prosecuted, and finished in the year 1650, having cost not less than thirty thousand pounds*. This noble fabrick is said to have been reared according to a plan of *Inigo Jones*, under the inspection of Doctor *Walter Balcanqual*, Dean of Rochester, one of the Executors named in George Herriot's last will and testament, dated 21st January 1623, O. S. †

This

erected, and put it into the hands of the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge: it was built by private subscription, with the exception of 100l. sterling from the writers to his Majesty's signet. An addition was made to this chapel about the year 1778. The total amount, from first to last, for erection, repairs, &c. was between seven and eight hundred pounds. The funds arising from the seat-rents are all that support the pastor, his assistant, door-keepers, &c.*.

* Arnot's Hist. of Edin. p. 566. A respectable author says 27,000l. only. See Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 598.

† *George Herriot*, the founder of the hospital to which his name is prefixed, was the son of a goldsmith and jeweller in Edinburgh. He followed his father's profession, and was first jeweller to Anne of Denmark, and afterwards appointed goldsmith to her husband James VI., and likewise to his son Charles I. The latter prince he furnished with jewels to a great amount, on his setting out for Spain, A. D. 1623, which were not paid for till Charles himself honourably discharged the debt soon after his accession to the throne. The crown lands of Broughton, in the immediate vicinity

* In the short interval which has elapsed since the above was written, the death of the clergyman of this congregation has taken place. It happened in January 1801.

of

This hospital was literally occupied as such by the sick and wounded of Cromwell's army, after the battle of Dunbar. To the like purpose it continued to be appropriated, till Monk, chief of the English forces in Scotland, A.D. 1658, at the earnest desire of the governors of Herriot's Hospital, removed those soldiers who then happened to be on the sick-list, to proper apartments in another place previously provided for their reception. Soon after, the hospital was opened, agreeably to the intention of its founder, for the reception of the sons of decayed burghesses. On the 11th of April 1659, thirty boys were admitted; and in the August following, ten more. In the year 1661, the number of boys was augmented to fifty-two; in 1753, to one hundred and thirty; and in 1763, to one hundred and forty. But, for reasons not easily to be developed, a reduction has taken place in the number, thirty appearing to have been struck off the benefit of the foundation in the year 1779; since which period, not more than one hundred and twenty-five boys partake at the same time of this charitable

of Edinburgh, which Herriot's trustees purchased, were allowed in part payment. Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 597. Herriot was twice married, and had considerable dowries with both his wives, which laid the foundation of his wealth. He followed the king his master to London; and died in the parish of St. Martin in the Fields, 12th February 1624, leaving behind him property to the amount, it is said, of at least fifty thousand pounds; out of which, after payment of his funeral expences, debts and legacies, (according to Maitland, p. 439), 25,393l. 1s. 7d. sterling were remitted to Edinburgh for the purpose specified in his will, namely, the founding of the hospital already mentioned. Arnot makes the sum 23,625l. 10s. 3½d.; and Mr. Creech 29,325l. 10s. 1½d. See Hist. of Edin. p. 567, and Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 598.

establishment, notwithstanding it enjoys a clear annual revenue of between three and four thousand pounds sterling*.

Immediately adjoining *Herriot's Wark*, as it is sometimes called, are *Grayfriars church* and *church-yard*; behind which is the *Charity-workhouse* †; and a little farther to the south, *Watson's Hospital* ‡; all within sight from this spot. As we ascend,
Blackford,

* At first, the original sum was lent out at interest (ten per cent.), but afterwards was invested in landed property; which partly was let out in perpetual grant on payment of a certain sum annually, and partly on lease, on the expiry of which it gradually rises in value. The grounds which were let at three bolls of barley per acre, when out of lease, will most likely bring at least thrice as much.

† The *Charity Workhouse* was built in the year 1743 by voluntary contribution, a poor's rate being a thing unknown in Scotland. Something in lieu of it seems to have been introduced in this last session of our *British Parliament*, in a bill for an assessment (for a limited time) on the inhabitants of Edinburgh and its environs. The average annual expence of each person, whether old or young, is rated at about four pounds ten shillings. Their food is of the poorest kind imaginable. This institution has had for several years back a violent struggle for existence. Some enlightened people think it were better that it should be suffered to die an easy and natural death. See Macpharlane's "Enquiries concerning the Poor:" a book of vast merit truly, but now rarely to be met with.

‡ *Watson's Hospital*, a building though inelegant in appearance, is well arranged in point of comfort and accommodation for the purposes intended by its founder, *George Watson*, a merchant of Edinburgh. This charitable institution is conducted on similar principles to those on which *Herriot's hospital* was originally established, which are liberal beyond example. The laws and regulations of each were drawn up with much care and judgment; and a strict observance of them has fully proved their salutary tendency. The youths admitted into both hospitals are fed comfortably with every article of immediate necessity both animal and vegetable, and decently apparelled as becomes the children of reputable tradesmen and respectable merchants, with the exception of uniformity in dress, which might be dispensed with. The education in the hospital is liberal in all respects; besides reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and other branches of the mathematics, the Greek and Latin classics are taught; and to those who desire it, the expences of an university education are defrayed; a thing, perhaps, unparalleled in the history of charitable institutions. This, however, is not all; even when they set out into the world, a sum is provided to assist them in their pursuits; and when their

Blackford, and *Braid-hills* rise to the view; behind which, *Pentland hills* oppose their shoulders, and darken the distance. The fertile plains of Mid-lothian, bounded by the distant heights and moorlands which divide the Scottish from the English border, and through which the *Tweed* winds its course, close this noble prospect.

Turning towards the west, the range of objects is no less worthy of notice. The castle, proudly seated on its rock, forms the grand leading object of this series. The house-tops of *Portsburgh* fantastically piled, fill the middle area of the picture. This distance is truly charming: it consists of the western plain of Lothian stretching along the base of the Pentland hills, two of which bend over the wooded parks of *Hatton* and *Dalmahoy*; beyond which, the heathy wilds that separate *West-lothian* from *Clydesdale* are indistinctly seen, and melt softly into the bright azure floating on the extreme verge of the horizon.

As the pathway winds up the hill in an angular direction, on entering the second angle on the right, the south side of the city presents its strangely-mingled mass of buildings; among which, the *Grayfriars* church*, *Magdalen chapel's*
spire,

their conduct warrants an honest, honourable, and fair reputation, a small sum is farther allowed for setting them up in business. For a fuller and more circumstantial account of these institutions, see Maitland's Hist. of Edin. p. 482, and Arnot's Hist. of Edin. p. 567.

* The Grayfriars church is among the very few established churches that are without a *steeple*, that being deemed an indispensable appendage, and a distinguishing mark among Presbyterians *properly so called*. The occasion of this church being without a steeple is mentioned by *Maitland* and *Arnot*. On the 7th May 1718 the old Grayfriars

*Spire**, the *University*, and the *Royal Infirmary*, appear the leading objects. Towering in mid-air, immediately behind this quarter, *Salisbury Craigs* and *Arthur's Seat* give an air of grandeur, characteristic of the irregularity of this uncommon scene.

Having gained the summit of the hill, the range of prospect becomes of course more extensive, and varied—particularly to the northward. Immediately beneath the eye, the *New Town* is seen at one glance almost in all its length and breadth. The *Frith of Forth* with its indented shores on either side forms a magnificent back-ground to this view.

Our next object is, to gain admittance into the Castle. This is no difficult matter; for any one in the uniform of a British officer being of the party, is a sufficient passport.

The interior of the Castle displays but little to excite curiosity. The fortifications are necessarily irregular from the nature of the inequalities of rock on which they are constructed: the buildings, not excepting the barracks lately erected, are heavy, inconvenient, and uncomfortable: there is an armoury, which, however, is a poor imitation of that in the Tower; there are also store-houses, and a powder magazine. This fortress, from its peculiar situation, was in remote ages deemed impregnable; it is by no means thought so any longer; a few hours of a well-directed

friars church was blown up by gun-powder, belonging to the city, (which for security had been laid up in the steeple). When the church was afterwards repaired, instead of a steeple, the magistrates wisely caused an additional place of worship to be built.

* The chapel of St. Mary Magdalen was erected about the beginning of the sixteenth century, by a citizen of Edinburgh, named Macqueen, on or near the site of an hospital called *Maison Dieu*. See Arnot's Hist. p. 245. Maitland's Hist. of Edin. p. 189.

siege

siege would settle the doubt, did any exist. Two places are still pointed out to the enquirer, of some small importance to the curious : the first of these is the apartment in which the unfortunate Mary was lodged when her son, the heir of the English and Scottish crowns, was born *. The second is what is called the *Crown Room*, in which, on the 26th of March 1707, with great solemnity, the regalia of Scotland were deposited, never more to be exposed to the gaze of vulgar admiration !

But what are most likely to engage the stranger's attention are, the amazing prospects, for extent and variety hardly to be paralleled, to be seen from many stations in the Castle, but especially from the top of the newly-erected barracks. It were in vain to describe so wide and extensive an *eye range* as this immense height commands. In the direction from east to west, from the Grampian mountains to the German ocean, an extent of nearly a hundred miles, and in the direction from north to south, the vast stretch of country from the Tay to the Tweed, comprehending the greater part of our cultivated fields and extensive pasture grounds, are seen from this altitude, which is almost perpendicular, and at least three hundred and fifty feet, from the base of the rock.

Having enjoyed the pleasure arising from contemplating the wide and extended horizon which the castle commands, we descend into the main, or *Highstreet*, as it is called, of Edinburgh, which is one continued way, with houses on either side, from the Castle-hill to the palace of *Holyrood-house*, comprehending nearly a mile in length ; and this, formerly, was looked on as the city of Edinburgh, properly so called.

* On the 19th June 1566.

On leaving the Castle, the first object worthy of inspection is the city's great cistern, or reservoir, of water, situated on the right, immediately as we enter that section of the main street called the Castle-hill. What particularly strikes us on viewing this capacious cistern is, how it happens that such a great body of water, thus collected to so elevated a level, is kept constantly in it, so as to afford a sufficient supply to such a considerable town as Edinburgh. The surprise ceases, however, when it is known that the fountain-head at Comiston, about four miles to the south-east of the city, is forty-four feet above the level of this reservoir; and that the cistern at the fountain-head receives five several streams collected from more remote fountains. Besides the original cistern, another was erected near Herriot's Hospital, communicating with this on the Castle-hill, to which water was conducted from the neighbourhood of Pentland hills by iron pipes of five and seven inches diameter in the years 1787 and 1790; by which means the city, suburbs, and town of Leith, are abundantly provided with sweet and wholesome water, an article so essential to existence. This cistern contains upward of two hundred and ninety-one tuns*.

* It is forty-three feet in length, twenty-eight in breadth, and six in depth. See Maitland's Hist. p. 205. ; and Arnot's Hist. p. 344. Before the year 1674, Edinburgh was but indifferently supplied with water: at that period, however, the magistrates entered into contract with *Peter Brusch* (or *Braschi*), a German by birth, who, besides the sum agreed on, (viz. 2900*l.*) received 50*l.* as an acknowledgment for the skilful manner in which he conducted this important labour. "That the city's funds might not be applied to a purpose so beneficial to the inhabitants, the magistrates endeavoured to obtain the authority of parliament for imposing upon the citizens a tax by way of *heart-money*, to defray the expence. Happily they were disappointed in this scheme of oppressive exaction, a circumstance not a little extraordinary in the reign of Charles II." Arnot's Hist. p. 341. See also Maitland's Hist. p. 205.

Where the Castle-hill terminates and the *Lawn-market* begins, a huge, awkward pile seems, as if by some accident, to have been cast out into the way, being offensive to the eye, inconvenient to passengers, and an interruption to the view in descending the High-street. This building is called the *Weigh-house*, at which goods are weighed according to the standard weights of the city, to which it affords a yearly rent of 167l. 15s. 6½d. (including the Still-yard in the Grass-market). In the upper part of the weigh-house is the principal market for butter, cheese, &c. *

We no sooner get rid of this eyesore, than another, not more *picturesque*, to use a fashionable phrase, strikes the view, namely the prison, or the Tolbooth †, formerly the parliament house. It once was deemed a goodly fabric, and wore a very

* The ground whereon the Weigh-house stands was granted to the Edinburghers (says Maitland) by king David II. in the 23d year of his reign, anno 1352. See Maitland's Hist. p. 181.

† The Tolbooth (says Arnot) was built by the citizens, A. D. 1561, and destined for the accommodation of parliament, and the courts of justice, and for the confinement of debtors and malefactors. Since 1640 it has been used solely as a jail. The ground-floor, indeed, which does not communicate with the rest of the building, is let out in shops. The three stories (flats) above, are places of confinement. Arnot's Hist. p. 298. It was from one of the windows of this building that the affrighted monarch James VI. attempted in vain to appease the fury of an enraged multitude, prepared to attack his sacred person; and who, but for the timely interposition of a loyal citizen of Edinburgh, by name John Watt, a blacksmith, who "rais'd the hail craftis in armes" would have effected their diabolical intention. The last parliament at which royalty presided was held in the Tolbooth, immediately after the coronation of Charles I., July 1633, Soon after which period it was converted into a jail. The city's prison was, before the year 1640, in the Old Bank close, Lawn-market, which is still to be seen, and is known by its windows being strongly stanchelled." Maitland's Hist. p. 181.

different aspect from that which it now wears; for instance, when Charles I. made his public entry into Edinburgh, in the splendid pageantry displayed on this momentous occasion: "Upon the west wall of the Tolbooth," says an author before quoted, "(where the goldsmith's shops do stand *) there stood ane " vast pageant, arched above, on ane large mab, the pourtraits " of a hundred and nine kings of Scotland. In the cavity of " the arch, Mercury was represented bringing up Fergus the first " king of Scotland, in ane convenient habit; who delivered " to his majesty a very grave speech, containing many precious " advices to his royal successor." Instead of representations of this nature, the drama occasionally exhibited here at the present day is of a more serious cast; for, instead of *Mercury* bringing up the founder of the Scottish monarchy, *John Heigh*, alias *Jack Ketch*, is seen leading some unfortunate criminal "*in ane convenient habit*" upon the platform, while some one makes "*a very grave speech*" to the poor wretch, preparatory to the awful ceremony of launching him into eternity.

From the prison to very near the *Royal Exchange* a row of houses, called the *Luckenbooths*, narrows the main street in a manner superlatively awkward. It has again and again been proposed to remove this public nuisance; but, from whatever cause the neglect of ridding the town of this incumbrance has proceeded, the citizens have long looked with anxious expectation for its total demolition, and having the causeway cleared of the last particle of its rubbish.

* There are no goldsmiths shops now to be seen under the public place of execution. This were an unseemly sight indeed.

On the left, a short distance below the Luckenbooths, is the ROYAL EXCHANGE*, one of the chief ornaments of the old town, and confessedly a building of much elegance and utility: yet, strange as it may seem, notwithstanding its court being of sufficient dimensions, and its having a piazza on the north side to retire to in case of bad weather, the merchants, farmers, and tradesmen who resort hither, prefer the open street on the spot where formerly the cross of Edinburgh stood, and where their forefathers were wont to meet, to the comforts and conveniencies afforded by the erection of the Royal Exchange. So powerful is prejudice conjoined to custom, when rooted in the human mind †.

Nearly opposite to the Exchange, where the causeway is paved in the figure of an octagon, *The Cross of Edinburgh* stood. It is perhaps unnecessary to describe an object that no longer is extant; yet, as a piece of antiquity, it may not be altogether out of place to mention a few leading particulars respecting this once celebrated building.

There were at one time four crosses on the main street leading from the Castle to the Abbey of Holyrood-house: one, called the *Girth-cross*, was within the precincts of the sanctuary; a second opposite the Canongate church; a third, a little above

* It was begun in Sept. 1753, and cost 31,457l. sterling, including the price paid for the ground on which it is built. Arnot's Hist. p. 312.

† It should seem, that before the present parliament-house was built, "a convenient piazza for merchants to meet in was erected in the year 1685; but the money (says Maitland) laid out thereon seems to have been ill applied, since it did not take; for the merchants and others continued to meet at the cross in the high street as formerly." Hist. of Edin. p. 186. Thus every attempt to accommodate the Edinburgh merchants has hitherto proved unsuccessful!

St. John's Street ; and a fourth, on the spot already pointed out, was *The Cross*, properly so called.

The Cross of Edinburgh was a curious specimen of mixed architecture*, rudely composed of Grecian and Gothic ornaments. It was in the form of an octagon, was of sixteen feet diameter, and was raised fifteen feet above the level of the street. At each angle of this octagon, a pillar of the Ionic order supported a bastion (projecting a little) of a Gothic appearance ; and between the columns circular arches were formed : upon the top of that which fronted the east, the city arms were rudely sculptured. In the same barbarous taste were heads cut in *alto rilievo* ; four of which are preserved in the tower at Dean-haugh, hereafter to be noticed. The entrance to this building fronted the east. A stair in the inside led to a platform, in the middle of which rose a pillar of one stone, with a Corinthian capital, on which a statue, representing the unicorn of the Scottish arms, was placed. This column was eighteen inches diameter and of proportionate height. The whole, though fantastic, exhibited an object characteristic of the general appearance of the Scottish capital a century or two back.

The Cross of Edinburgh was the Scottish *Sinai* of former times, whence proceeded the terrors of the law, and royal proclamations†. At times it was the scene of public festi-

* Answering in some degree Hogarth's idea of *variety* in picturesque beauty.

† " From the Cross of Edinburgh (says Arnot) royal proclamations, and the more solemn denunciations of law, were published. There also, before the art of printing, the mode of publishing acts of parliament was by the herald's reading " them aloud from the cross." *Hist. of Edin.* p. 303.

vity,

vity*, and often the place where malefactors were hanged †, and titled traitors beheaded ‡.

But the chief ornament of Edinburgh is *St. Giles's* church, a magnificent gothic pile, the beauties of which are almost wholly concealed by the houses in its near neighbourhood, particularly the Luckenbooths, which it is expected will speedily be pulled down.

The Cathedral church (for such it was) of *St. Giles* is in length from east to west two hundred and sixty feet; its breadth at the centre is one hundred and twenty-nine feet at its west end;

* “ Upon the 13 Maii (A. D. 1586) the king being in Holyruidhous, convenient ye haill lords and noblemen yat had feid; and ther, in the palace of Holyruidhous, he causd ye haill noblemen that had deidly feid at uthurs, to aggre togidder; and after they had shoken hands togidder, and drunken ane to aneather, for confirming of ye said agreement and friendschipe, yat the haill country might the better understand yat it wes hes maiesties vork, caused them to come from the palace of Holyruidhous, euery one in uthers hands, and his maiestie vith them, to ye crosse of Edinburgh, quher ye city made them a very sumptuous banquet; at quhilk tyme, ther wes much say and solemnitie, with mutual salutations of good vill one to ane uther; his maiestie drinking peace and happines to them all, yat the lyke ves never befor sein in Edinburgh.” Birrell's Diary, p. 24.

† “ The same day (i. e. 27th April 1601.) Archibald Cornell toune officer, hangit at the Crosse, and hung on the gallows 24 hours; and the caus qrfore he wes hangit, he being an unmerciful greidie creatur, the poyndit ane honest man's hous, and amonst the rest he poyndit the king and quein's picturis; and quhen he came to the crosse to compryse the same he hung yame upone twa nailis on the same gallows to be comprysit; and yai being sene, word zead to the king and queen, grupone he wes apprehendit, and hangit.” Ibid. p. 54.

“ The 10 March (A. D. 1603) twa notable thieffes hangit at the Crosse, ane Thomas Hardie, and ane Davidson.” Ibid. p. 61.

‡ “ Upon the 9th of Maii, in this zeir (i. e. 1590) the earle of Mortone ves brought out of Dumbartone Castill to Edinburgh, and being accusit for committing ye king's murther, ves convicte be ane affyze; and one the second day of ye moneth of Junii thereafter, wes beheidit at ye crosse of Edinburgh.” Ibid. p. 22.

a hundred

a hundred and ten feet; and at the east end, where the great altar stood, seventy-six feet only. Its figure is cruciform. A quadrangular tower, lofty and elegant, rises from the middle of the building. This tower supports a turret composed of four arches intersecting each other, in form of an imperial crown, from the top of which a pointed spire terminates this magnificent steeple, which for beauty and exquisite workmanship has few to equal it any where. The height of the tower, arched turret, and spire, is one hundred and sixty-one feet*. This imperial crown of St. Giles is disgraced by a wretched set of what are called *music bells*, which are miserably tinkled, and tortured into something resembling tunes for an hour every day, Sundays excepted, to the no small delight of those who frequent the cross, the usual haunt of our merchants and men of business.

St. Giles's, formerly called by way of eminence the *Great Kirk*, now the *High church*, "was erected into a collegiate church by king James III. in the year 1466," before which period it was a parish church, of which the abbot of *Scone* was patron. Our celebrated Scottish poet *Gavin Douglas* bishop of Dunkeld was sometime dean of St. Giles's †.

When the secular power, with sacrilegious violence, at the first dawn of our emancipation from ceremonial religion, laid

* It is considered a feat of no small dexterity for rope dancers to ascend to and descend from the upper-gallery of a play-house on the tight rope; but what is the most brilliant attempt of this kind when compared to one made, as recorded by an eye-witness!—

"The 10 of Julii (says Birrel) 1598, ane man, sum callit him a juglar, playit sic fowple tricks upone ane tow, qlk wes festinit betwixt the top of St. Gill's kirk steeple and an stair beneath the crosse, callit Josias Clofe Heid, the lyke was never sene in yis countre; as he raid doune the tow and playit sa many pavies." Birrel's Diary, p. 47.

† Hope's Minor Pract. Append. p. 522.

hands

hands on things dedicated to holy office, the magistrates of Edinburgh made lawful seizure, and took possession of the sacred vessels; among other things inshrined in silver, of the arm of *St. Giles*, the tutelar saint of the city, which in the reign of our second James had been brought to Edinburgh by *Preston of Gorton*, who by the help of the then king of France gained possession of this precious relick *.

Not long after the commencement of the Reformation, *St. Giles's* was converted into four separate places of worship †; and lesser divisions, for various public offices belonging to the town, have since that period been set apart.

In the year 1633, when Charles I. visited his native country, *William Forbes*, an eminent divine, preaching before the king, so pleased that pious monarch, that he raised the accomplished preacher to the prelatical dignity; and, erecting Edinburgh into an episcopal see, the king by letters patent bearing date the 26th January 1634, appointed Forbes to the Bishoprick; this mark of royal regard he enjoyed, however, only a short time, as he died on the first day of April following, having ex-

* Arnot's Hist. of Edin. p. 268, 269.

† "The 17th of Februar (1598) the king (James VI.) being in the grate kirk (*i. e.* *St. Giles*) of Edinburgh at the ceremone, Mr. Patrick Galloway red out likit the forme or manner of the divisione of the four kirkis of Edin. ane quarter of the tounne to everie kirke. The said 17th of Februar, (continues this author) betwixt 9 and 10 in the morning, ane grate darknes be reafone of eclipses, sick ane darknes hes not beine sene, for the hail pepell within Edin. yat knew not quhat it wes, yat it had bene duimf-day. Merchantis and utheris yat wer ignorent, steikit ther buith doris and ran to the kirke to pray, as gif it had bene the last day."—Birrel's Diary, p. 45. It is apprehended that some mistake with regard to the dates is here made by Birrel.

"The 26th of Apryle, Mr. James Balfour maid marriage and baptisme in the little kirk, qlk wes ye first yat wes done in yat kirk." Ibid. p. 46.

exercised the functions of his office but little more than two months*.

The chief division of St. Giles's is called the *New Church*, being the choir of the cathedral †. In it is the king's seat, which the commissioner to the general assembly occupies when that national synod holds its annual sittings: these are held in the great aisle of the choir. In it, also, are the seats of the magistrates of the city, those of the judges of the courts of session, and of his Majesty's exchequer. The Magistrates and senators attend public worship in their robes of office.

Of the eminent men whose remains lie interred in St. Giles's church, may be noticed, Mary's unkind brother, James earl of Murray, regent of Scotland, murdered at Linlithgow; the baron of Merchiston, lord Napier, to whom the mathematical world is indebted for his admirable invention of the logarithms; and the gallant marquis of Montrose (the remembrance of whose heroism and magnanimity will descend to latest posterity), who, to the disgrace of the age which he was destined to adorn, perished by the hands of the common executioner!

The whole length of St. Giles's forms the north side of the *Parliament Close*: part of the west and south sides is formed of the buildings in which our courts of law are held, where prior to the union the Scottish legislature assembled for dispatch of

* See Keith's Catalogue of Bishops, p. 38.

† BLAIR the rhetorician, greatly celebrated for his elegant compositions for the pulpit, was for a considerable time minister of the High Church. He died but a short time since (Dec. 30, 1800). The other three divisions are called Haddoc's Hole, the Tolbooth church, and the Old church. Webster, the well known founder of what is denominated the *Widow's* (of the established clergy) *Scheme*, was many years minister of the Tolbooth church, and Henry the historian that of the Old church.

business*. The area on which the public and private buildings of this square are erected was once the cemetery belonging to the church of St. Giles†. Some of the private houses in this square are of an uncommon elevation; rising above the level of the pavement five stories, besides garrets, and as many, including cellars, beneath these; having their south front to the Cowgate, a street running parallel to the High-street, in which, it is said, the Scottish nobility and gentry had their town residence, which must have been uncomfortable in the extreme.

Of late, the *outer parliament house* has been greatly altered for the better: the *inner house* remains as it was. Above this latter hall is the court of Exchequer, with ante-chambers for the accommodation of the barons and others in employment about that court. Owing to the peculiar inequality of the ground on which the Parliament house is erected, the apartments allotted to the Lawyer's library are under-ground.

The *Advocate's library*‡, as it is called, consists of a collection of books, printed and manuscript, in every department of elegant literature, art and science, in almost every language, ancient and modern. The liberal principles on which it is conducted render this institution a valuable acquisition to literary pursuits. RUD-

* Maitland's Hist. p. 185.—“The present parliament house was begun A. D. 1631, and completed A. D. 1640, at the expence of eleven thousand six hundred pounds sterling.” Arnot's Hist. p. 293. Maitland says, A. D. 1632. It was built partly by subscription and partly at the charge of the town's fund. Maitland's Hist. p. 186.

† The fine equestrian statue of Charles II. before the parliament house is an admirable specimen of art: by whom it was executed, and at what period it was erected, are uncertain.

‡ This institution was projected in the year 1682 by the celebrated Sir George Mackenzie, then Lord Advocate of Scotland. Arnot's Hist. p. 295.

BLIND the grammarian and **HUME** the historian were keepers of this splendid library.

As the traveller proceeds down the High-street, on either hand he observes new buildings, which exhibit a striking contrast to the old and weather-beaten houses, some of which have stood for centuries. But most of the ancient fabrics * have been pulled down, and on their site the modern parts on both sides of the way are built; it is almost unnecessary to say, in a stile more suited to the comforts and conveniences of living than the rude habitations of the citizens of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, when civilization was but little advanced in comparison with its progress toward the close of the century to which we have just bid adieu.

The next object that attracts notice is the *Tron Church* †. It certainly is an elegant structure, and is now seen to much advantage, the houses which surrounded it being nearly all removed. It was founded in the year 1637, dedicated to Christ in 1641, opened for public worship in 1647, and completely finished in 1663. The expence of this building was estimated at six thousand pounds sterling. Like the rest of the churches in town, this is under the immediate patronage of the magistrates.

At the Tron Church, the streets opening on the right and left, and leading to the south and north of the extended royalty or city privileges, branch off: these are South and North Bridge-streets, the arches of which form the communications between

* For a description and history of the ancient buildings, see Maitland's and Arnot's Histories of Edinburgh.

† "So called from its vicinity to the *Tron*, or public beam for weighing merchandise."—Arnot's Hist. p. 276. Called also *Christ's Church*, as appears from the inscription above the door. Maitland, p. 165.

the new town on the one hand, and the south-suburb on the other. What regards the erection of the bridges shall be noticed hereafter.

Below the bridges, the declivity of the high street is sensibly perceived, and very severely felt by beasts of burden: before the late improvement in levelling the street it was distressing in the extreme; now, however, it is sufferable at least.

At the Netherbow the street suddenly narrows, and the houses assume a more ancient aspect than those in the vicinity of the cross and bridges. Nearly opposite to the Fountain Well, on the right-hand side of the way, are still to be seen, rudely plastered into the wall, the heads, as is supposed, of *Severus* and *Julia* his wife, in *alto-relievo*. The workmanship is masterly. The faces are in profile, and are esteemed by antiquaries genuine, as bearing perfect resemblance to heads on the coins of that Emperor's reign.

After passing the strait of the *Netherbow**, and leaving on the right *St. Mary's Wind*, and on the left *Leith Wind*, we enter that part of the high street called *Canongate*, the principal suburb of the city. The *Canongate* is a borough of barony† governed by its own bailies, who take cognizance of petty crimes, and

* Before the gates of the city were removed, the *Netherbow*-port was by far the finest entrance into Edinburgh, and exhibited a portal characteristic of the times in which it was erected, which was in the year 1606. An etching of this gate by the late-Runciman, is extant, though rarely to be met with.

† "King David I. granted to the canons of Holyroodhouse the privilege of erecting a borough, between the town of Edinburgh and church of Holyroodhouse, which still retains the name of *Canongate*, with a right to hold markets in it."—Arnot's Hist. p. 252. The burghesses had "a power to elect annually at Michaelmas two or three bailiffs, and a treasurer, with a proper number of officers, for the administration of justice," and the said burghesses were likewise empowered to hold courts both civil and criminal; Ibid. p. 147.

give judgment in causes of small debts, &c. Formerly, the Canongate was the court-end of the town; of course the nobility and gentry, foreign ambassadors, &c. who naturally crowded as near the royal residence as possible, had their lodgings in this district of the city. "This place (says Maitland) has suffered more by the union of the kingdoms than all the other parts of Scotland; for having before that period been the residence of the chief of the Scottish nobility, it was then in a flourishing condition; but being deserted by them, many of their houses are fallen down, and others in a ruinous condition; it is in a piteous case *!" Since the west road to Leith was made (before which period the communication between Leith and Edinburgh was by the Canongate), this borough has fallen indeed: its case now is truly piteous!

It has already been mentioned, that three crosses were at one time extant in this part of the main street called Canongate. The spot on which the *first*, namely *St. John's* cross, stood, is marked in a similar manner to that on which the cross of Edinburgh was erected opposite the Royal Exchange. The second cross is still extant, and is that at which criminals stand on the pillory †; it formerly stood opposite to the church, but is now close to the wall of the council chamber, over which the prison (for debtors chiefly) is situated.

* "The 14 of Maii 1571, ane parliament haldin in the Cannon gaitt, in William Cocker's hous neir St. Johnes croffe, by the king's folks (*i. e.* James VI. then an infant), also at ye same tyme, ane parliament hald in the tolbuith of Edinburghe. Ther was maney forfaulted at both ye parliaments." Birrel's Diary, p. 19. See also Robertson's Hist. of Scot. vol. ii. p. 16. 4to.

† Those condemned by the resident magistrates of Canongate.

The *Canongate Church*, at the time it was first erected, was deemed a handsome edifice *. What order of architecture it exhibits, however, is not easily ascertained. The singular appearance of a deer's head, placed on the front of the church, conveyed an odd notion to a stranger. "Many a head similarly adorned," said a wag as he passed by one day, "doth that (pointing to the stag's head on the front of the church) overlook on a Sunday, little conscious of such uncomely decoration."

In the Canongate church-yard a plain but decent tomb-stone, (with a suitable inscription) erected to the memory of *Robert Ferguson* the poet, by *Robert Burns* the no less celebrated Scottish bard, is to be seen; a tribute of regard worthy to be remembered; and it is hoped, that some one, touched with the fate of Burns, will, imitating his example, raise a monument over the narrow house where his ashes repose; so that the inquiring stranger visiting the hallowed spot, may heave the sigh and drop the tear of sensibility on the sod that covers his remains.

The tomb-stone of another genius, namely, *JOHN FREDERICK LAMPE*, is to be met with in the Canongate church-yard *.

The

* When James VII. appropriated the chapel of Holyroodhouse for the celebration of religious rites according to the canons of the church of Rome, and decorated it for the ceremony of installing the knights of the ancient order of the *thistle*, the Canongate *hereticks* were excluded, and were desired to shift for themselves elsewhere. A pious citizen of Edinburgh (by name *Thomas Moodie*) having bequeathed a certain sum for building a church, James was reminded of the circumstance, and soon after ordered the church to be erected and the expences defrayed out of the sum bequeathed by Moodie. This took place in the year 1688.—See Arnot's Hist. p. 276. Another church has lately been built in New-street, Canongate.

† *John Frederick Lampe*, author of "A plain and compendious Method of teaching
"Thorough Bass, &c."—London printed 1737; who set also to music Carey's *Dra-
gon*

The celebrated PASQUALI *, too, was buried in this cemetery, but there is no grave-stone to mark the spot.

Among those distinguished in the annals of literature, who have descended into "the house appointed for all living," and whose remains lie in the Canongate church-yard, are the late Doctors LOTHIAN † and MACPHARLANE ‡ (colleagues of this parish church), men eminently conspicuous for usefulness in the circle of their parochial duty, and respected by the learned, among whom they moved in honourable regard and just estimation. Their domestic habits were virtuous, becoming, and exemplary. They were revered for their amiable dispositions, and sincerely beloved and admired for their suavity of manners, and sociability in the familiar intercourse of polished society.

Little worthy of observation is to be met with below the Canongate church, till we approach the Abbey of Holyrood-house ; a short distance from which, the third and last cross, namely, the *Girth cross*, (corruptly called *girs*, or *grafs* cross),

gon of Wantley and other musical pieces, was a German by birth. "Lampe (says Sir John Hawkins) died in London about twenty years ago."—Hist. of Music, vol. v. p. 371, which is not true. "LAMPE, (says Doctor Burney) the ingenious composer of the *Dragon of Wantley*, quitting London in 1749, resided two years in Dublin; where he was settled very much to the satisfaction of the patrons of music in that city, and of himself; but in July 1751 he was seized with a fever, which put an end to his existence, at the age of fifty-nine." Burney's Hist. of Music, vol. iv. p. 672.

* "In 1753, PASQUALI, an excellent performer on the violin, and a good musician, who came to England about the year 1743, went to Edinburgh, where he had an establishment, and lived much respected as a professor, and beloved as a man by all who knew him, till the time of his death in 1757." Ibid. p. 672.

† Author of "A History of the United Provinces of the Netherlands." 4to.

‡ Author of "Inquiries concerning the Poor," 8vo.

one of the places of public execution, once stood*. Among others who suffered an ignominious death by suspension at this spot, was that heroic loyalist the *Marquis of Montrose*. This gallant chief, betrayed by the friend to whom he had entrusted his safety, a few days after the overthrow of the handful of Germans and highlanders which he commanded at the battle of Invercharron, was, together with many of his officers, led prisoner to Edinburgh, and received by the magistrates, the city guard and hangman at the Water-gate (still extant) at the foot of the Canongate: thence, pinioned to a seat raised aloft in a cart, and preceded by the public executioner, the high-minded Montrose was conducted, bare-headed and exposed to the gaze of the rabble, to the common jail of the city; meanwhile his implacable enemy Argyle, and others his associates, were seen, it is said, at a balcony, saturating their sight with the humiliating spectacle; in which the fallen hero was held up as a gazing-stock to the multitude, whose sighs, tears, and ejaculations, however, testified the part they took in his sufferings, which he bore with an elevation of soul that exalted him even in the eye of his merciless persecutors.

The second day after his arrival in Edinburgh, Montrose was led into the parliament-house, in order to meet the reproaches of those exercising the powers of government, and to receive sentence of death, pronounced in words to the following

* The following record is to be seen in Birrel's Diary, p. 49. "The 2d day of July 1600, Johne Kinland of Waristone murderit be hes awin wyff and servant man, and her nurische being also upone the conspiracy. The said gentilwoman being apprehendit, sche wes tane to the Girth crosse upone the fifth day of Julii, and heid struck fra her bodie at the Cannagait fit, quha diet verie patiently. The nurische brunt at the same tyme, at 4. houris in the morning, the 5th of Julii."

purport:

purport:—"Thou art to be hanged by the neck on a gibbet thirty feet high for three hours: thy head struck off, and affixed on the walls of the prison, thy limbs to the gates of the four principal cities; the trunk of thy body, thus mutilated, buried in the dust where the skulls and bones of malefactors are mingled; unless thou repent, and be duly relieved from the maledictions of excommunication." With a countenance undismayed, our hero heard this awful doom, and prepared to meet his fate with firmness.

"The clergy (says an elegant historian), whose vocation it was to persecute the repose of his last moments, fought, by the terrors of his sentence, to extort repentance; but his behaviour, firm and dignified to the end, repelled their insulting advances with scorn and disdain. He was prouder, he replied, to have his head affixed to the prison walls, than his picture placed in the king's bed-chamber; and far from being troubled, that my limbs are to be sent to your principal towns, I wish I had flesh enough to be dispersed through Christendom, to attest my dying attachment to my king*." It was the calm employment of his mind that night, to reduce this

* The lines written by Montrose (says this author) with a diamond on his prison window, the night before his execution, are mentioned by Hume as no despicable proof of his poetical genius.

"Let them bestow on every airth (cardinal point) a limb,
 "Then open all my veins that I may swim
 "To thee, my Maker, in that crimson lake;
 "Then place my par-boil'd head upone a stake;
 "Scatter my ashes, strew them in the air,
 "Lord! since thou know'st where all these atoms are,
 "I'm hopeful thou'lt recover once my dust,
 "And confident thou'lt raise it with the just."

See Laing's Hist. Note xvi.

extravagant

“ extravagant sentiment to verse. He appeared next day on
 “ the scaffold, in a rich habit, with the same serene and un-
 “ daunted countenance, and addressed the people, to vindicate
 “ his dying unabsolved by the church, rather than to justify
 “ an invasion of the kingdom during a treaty with the estates.
 “ The insults of his enemies were not yet exhausted. The
 “ history of his exploits was attached to his neck by the public
 “ executioner; but he smiled at their inventive malice, declared
 “ that he wore it with more pride than he had done the garter;
 “ and when his devotions were finished, demanding if any
 “ more indignities remained to be practised, submitted calmly
 “ to an unmerited fate *. Thus perished at the age of thirty-
 “ eight, the gallant Marquis of Montrose, with the reputation
 “ of one of the first commanders whom the civil wars had pro-
 “ duced. His genius was great and romantic, in the opinion
 “ of Cardinal de Retz, approaching the nearest to that of the
 “ ancient heroes of Greece and Rome. But his heroism was

* The following account of his last moments is given by an eye-witness: “ They
 (i. e. *The Commission of the Kirk*) seeing for the present he (the Marquis of Montrose)
 was not desiring relaxation from this sentence of excommunication, did appoint Mr.
 Mungo Law and me, to attend on the morrow on the scaffold, at the time of his exe-
 cution, that, in case he should desire to be relaxed from his excommunication, we
 should be allowed to give it unto him in the name of the Kirk, and to pray with him
 and for him, *that what loosed in earth might be loosed in heaven*. But he did not at all
 desire it, yea, did not look towards that place of the scaffold where we stood; only he
 drew apart some of the magistrates, and spake awhile with them; and then went up
 the ladder in his red scarlet cassock, in a very stately manner, and never spoke a word.
 But, when the executioner was putting the cord about his neck, he looked down to
 the people upon the scaffold, and asked, “ How long should I hang here?” When my
 colleague and I saw him casten over the ladder, we returned to the Commission, and re-
 lated to them the matter as it was.” MS. Diary of Mr. Robert Traill, Edin. Mag.
 for the year 1773, vol. i. p. 199.

“ wild and extravagant ; prone to vast and desperate enter-
 “ prises, without consulting the necessary means ; actuated rather
 “ by passion than virtue, by prejudices rather than regulated
 “ principles ; and was less conspicuous during his life, than for
 “ the fortitude with which he sustained an ignominious death.
 “ Within a few days he was followed to the scaffold by his
 “ principal officers ; for the fury of the covenant was not yet
 “ extinguished *.”

Passing the *bourne*, beyond which the insolvent debtor finds an asylum †, we soon come within the precinct of the royal palace of *Holyrood-house* ; one of the earliest specimens of modern architecture introduced north of the Tweed ‡. Of the ancient palace built by James V. very little remains but the towers of the north-west corner §, which was occupied by his unfortunate daughter Mary (in whose presence Rizzio was murdered ||), and occasionally by her son James before his ac-

* Laing's History of Scotland, p. 404, 405.

† “ The abbey church and palace, which is surrounded with a precinct or liberty, at present used as an *asylum* for insolvent debtors, was anciently the sanctuary belonging to the monastery, for the refuge and protection of criminals.” Maitland's Hist. p. 153.

‡ Built in the year 1674, by Robert Mylne, mason, after a design by Sir William Bruce of Kinross.

§ This only remaining part was begun, as appears by a date at the bottom of a niche in the wall, A. D. 1528. It was burned by the English army that invaded Scotland, under the command of the earl of Hertford, in 1544. Again it suffered the same fate by Cromwell's soldiers in 1650. Soon after the Restoration it was ordered to be repaired ; instead of which it was rebuilt as it at present appears, and was occupied by James Duke of York in 1687, and by Charles-Edward Stuart, and immediately after him by William Duke of Cumberland, in the years 1745 and 1746. The last personage who inhabited this royal residence was the Count d'Artois, who, though a foreigner, claimed the benefit of the sanctuary.

|| March 9, 1566.

cession to the English throne, when the union of the crowns devolved on that pedantic prince of pious memory. During the king's occasional residence in this palace, his kinsman, Francis Stewart Earl of Bothwell (grandson of James V.), capricious and restless in his nature, repeatedly alarmed the timid monarch, in his tranquil moments of domestic security, by unseasonable and unexpected intrusion, in defiance of becoming ceremony, and the vigilance of the royal attendants*.

As is usual at places shewn to persons whose curiosity leads them to inquire after whatever is deemed worthy of notice, there are under-keepers about this palace, ready, if required, to open the gallery doors, the chapel, and royal sepulchre, and to rhyme over their unmeaning descriptions. Very little, however, is to be seen in or about the palace of Holyrood-house. Till the late Commander in Chief, Lord Adam Gordon, resided in this palace, it was hastening rapidly to decay, in consequence of negligence in the extreme. It is now habitable, and in such

* "The 24 of Julii 1593, at 8 hours morning, the earle of Bothwell, the laird of Spott, Mr. Villiam Lesly, Mr. John Colvill, came into the king's chalmer weil providit with pittol; this earle and hes complices came not yis way providit with pistolis and drawin swordis to harme the king's maiestie any wayis, but because he could not get presence of his maiestie, nor speich of him for the Homes, quho were courtiers with the king, and enemies to the said earle of Bothwell; sua they came into hes maiestie's chalmer resolving yamselves not to be haldin back, till they fould have spoken with him; and sua after yai came in, his maiestie was coming frae the back stair and his breiks in his hand in an feir; howbeit he needed not. Ye foresaid Bothwell and his complices fell upon yair knees, and beggit mercie: and his maiestie being wyse, merciful, a noble prince of grate pitie, no defyrours of bluid, granted yeme mercie, and receivit yame in his favour." Birrel's Diary, p. 31. This was the second visitation this daring "disturber of the king's tranquillity" made to his liege lord and master, when the good nature of James was put to the trial. Robertson's Hist. of Scotl. vol. ii. p. 175. 181.

order as to exhibit some shew, at least, of comfort and accommodation; but it is at best a cold, damp, cheerless residence. In addition to Lord Adam Gordon's improvements, government ordered a suite of apartments to be fitted up for the reception of Comte d'Artois, in one of which he held his levees. At the first levee, the Commander in Chief, with his staff, and a number of military gentlemen, were presented; among others, several of the officers of the first battalion of the Edinburgh Volunteers in their uniform, which is blue with red cuffs and collars. The Comte was observed to eye these gentlemen, as they made their bows, with a more than usual expression of countenance; some believing it proceeded from a feeling recollection of the resemblance which our volunteer gentry bore to the French national guards.

The palace is built of hewn stone, in the form of a square; and the inner court is surrounded with piazzas. Its front is to the west; the north and south angles of which project into double towers, giving it somewhat of an antique aspect. This front consists of one flat above the ground-floor: the roof is level, with a double row of balustrades. The other three sides of the square are higher by one story and garret rooms. In front is the portico; above which a small cupola with an imperial crown appears: on either side are female figures recumbent, cut in stone; at the feet of which the royal arms of Scotland are also sculptured: the whole is supported by double columns of the Doric order. The dukes of Hamilton, as hereditary keepers of the palace, have a right of pre-occupancy to the apartments that run in front over the great door. The south wing contains, among others, the great council chamber, in which the Scottish
pccrage.

peerage assemble when any of *the sixteen* require to be filled up. The east front, together with part of the south wing, contains the suite of chambers which the Comte d'Artois and the French nobility and clergy inhabited during their stay in the abbey. The north wing contains the long gallery, in which are the portraits of our Scottish kings. On the same side are Lord Dunmore's apartments; in one of which the celebrated picture of Charles I. and his Queen is to be seen. Adjoining to Lord Dunmore's, are the rooms usually occupied by his Grace of Hamilton, when at Edinburgh; being the same which Queen Mary inhabited during her pregnancy, and unhappy misunderstanding with her husband Darnley, which terminated so fatally, first in the death of Rizzio, and afterwards in the mysterious murder of Darnley himself. Both these events were attended with circumstances of peculiar horror, highly characteristic of the times in which they happened.

Visitors are usually led through the presence-chamber, where the victim of Darnley's jealousy was dispatched. It was about eight of the clock, on Saturday the ninth of March (1566), when Mary, who had advanced to the sixth month of her pregnancy, little dreading the sad catastrophe which she was doomed to witness, was sitting carelessly at supper with the countess of Argyle, and Rizzio was tasting, at the cupboard in a closet of the bedchamber, some meats which were intended for the Queen. Suddenly a pannel close to the floor burst open, which led to a secret passage by a trap-stair to the apartments beneath. The King immediately entered. At his back stalked in Ruthven clad in armour, with a countenance which long sickness had imprinted with the paleness of death, and eyes animated by the

workings of premeditated murder. An armed band of assassins also rushed into the chamber. The Queen and countess started up from the table. Rizzio, alarmed at this unexpected appearance of the King and his stern attendants, flew to the Queen, and, seizing the skirts of her robes, called out,—“Justice, justice, Madam! save my life! Oh save my life!” Ruthven, who had undertaken to dispatch him, drew his dagger, and with a voice and look that struck terror to the soul of the trembling victim, commanded him to let go his hold, and instantly quit the presence of his royal mistress. In vain did Mary with streaming eyes implore mercy at the hands of her brutal husband. He clasped her in his polluted embrace, while his enraged accomplices dragged Rizzio into the next apartment, where Morton and Lindsay with a band of ruffians stood ready to receive him, and each eager to thrust his dagger into the heart of the ill-fated Italian: he fell pierced with many wounds, and expired amid his assassins, among whom, it is said, was the king himself! While this bloody scene was acting, Mary was thrust into an upper parlour, where she heard the horrid uproar of the murderers, and the expiring groans of her favourite, without the power of yielding him protection, or suspending for a moment his fearful end*.

Adjoining to the palace is the chapel of *Domus Sanctæ Crucis*, or, as it is called in Scots Saxon, *Haly-ruid-bous*, the only remains of that abbey founded in the year 1128 by David I., and

* Robertson's Hist. of Scotl. vol. i. p. 307, 308. Vol. ii. Append. No. XV.

“The 9 day of March Seingeoni David, furnamed Rissus, ane Italiane, quha wes the Queine's secretary, a man very skillfull in musick and poetry, wes slane in her majestie's presence by the Lord Ruthven, and uthers his complices, quha wer all banishit therfore anno 1566.” Birrel's Diary, p. 5. See also Note O, *ibid*.

dedicated,

dedicated, as the name imports, to the Holy Cross. The ancient Priory of St. Andrews furnished this monastery with canons *. In the year 1607, when the religious houses were secularized, the title of Lord Holyrood-house was conferred on John Bothwell, son of Adam Bishop of Orkney †. There were five cells, or priories, depending on this abbey, *viz.* St. Mary's Isle, in Galloway; Blantire, in Clydesdale; Rowadill, in the Isle of Harries; and Crusay and Oronsay, both situated in small islands in the county of Argyle. It appears by the charter of foundation, that David endowed the monastery of the Holy Cross with a princely liberality. Among other good things are mentioned the lands belonging to five different churches, *viz.* The churches of Edinburgh castle, St. Cuthbert's, Liberton, Corstorphine, and Airth. The four former are in the county of Mid Lothian, and the latter in Stirlingshire ‡. Besides these, the canons had other portions of land allotted them by succeeding royal donors, together with privileges of erecting mills, &c. In short, the abbey of Holyrood-house was at the Reformation the richest monastery north of the Tweed §.

* Canons-Regular of St. Augustine. Spottiswoode. Appendix to Hope's Min. Pract. p. 419.

† *Adam Bothwell*, Bishop of Orkney, Abbot of Holyrood-house, performed the marriage ceremony (in the chapel-royal of the said abbey, on the 15th May 1567) between Bothwell and the unfortunate Queen of Scots.

‡ See Maitland's Hist. of Edin. where this charter is ingrossed, beginning at p. 144.

§ "Its annual revenues at the Reformation were four hundred and forty-two bolls of wheat, six hundred and forty bolls of beer (a kind of barley), five hundred and sixty bolls of oats, five hundred *capons*, two dozen of hens, two dozen of salmon, twelve loads of salt, besides a number of swine, and about two hundred and fifty pounds sterling in money." See Maitland's Hist. of Edin. p. 148.; also Arnot's Hist. p. 252.

Venerable in ruins still, the abbey church exhibits, to the eye accustomed to contemplate Gothic grandeur, a pleasing object for association in the indulgence of pensive reverie. Nor will the philosopher, if, perchance, by moon-light, he visits the mouldering remains of this ancient monastery, be less gratified, when ruminating over the changes that have taken place in the grand drama of human affairs, since these walls were first reared as a temple for ceremonial worship.

In the dark and early ages of Christianity, when it was believed, that heaven interposed in human events, the most frivolous miracles were common; and no one had a right to doubt the evidence of the senses, leaving the *lesser miracles* out of the question. An instance of divine interposition is recorded by historians of the best authority, in the wars of Constantine, the first of the Emperors who embraced Christianity*. A similar instance is also mentioned by the gravest of our Scottish historians with regard to the royal founder of Holyrood-house. David, it is said, while hunting in the forest of *Drumfelch* (Drumseuch, in the immediate vicinity of Edinburgh) was attacked by an enraged stag, who unhorsed him; but with a cross which descended from the heavens, and which the affrighted monarch, seizing in his hand, turned instantly on the audacious assailant, he put him to flight. In gratitude for his miraculous deliverance, the king founded the monastery of the Holy Cross and richly endowed it, in the manner already related; conferring at the same time the high privilege of trial by duel, and ordeal by fire and water; an execrable rite, derived from times

* Alluding to the legend respecting the *Labrum*, or military standard, of Constantine the Great. *Vide* Eusebius in Vit. Constantini.

of Gothic barbarism, and continued for many ages prior to the reformation of religion. Thus did churchmen preserve their power, by appealing to heaven in the exercise of diabolical secrets in the management of ordeal; and, by sanctioning murder, reconciled it to the meek forbearance of the gospel, by calling it the judgment of God.

Most of the vaults in the royal chapel are now shut up from public view; still, however, a few bones are exhibited as the sad remnant of *royal skeletons*. The only statue at present to be seen is that in the belfry, representing Robert Lord Belhaven, who died *anno* 1639: it is of white marble, in a recumbent posture, and is somewhat mutilated. The workmanship is not altogether without merit.

The situation of the abbey is certainly appropriate: at least, it must have been so before the palace and other buildings in its near neighbourhood were built. The heights of Salisbury Craigs and Arthur's Seat, towering immediately behind the monastery, must have given an air of solemnity and grandeur to every thing around it, peculiarly interesting and impressive.

At the time when James V. built the palace of Holyrood-house, he enclosed by a stone wall of considerable height and thickness all the hilly ground in the neighbourhood of the monastery: hence it received the appellation of *The King's Park*; and a fine park it must be considered, when one surveys the assemblage it consists of. In the valley between Salisbury Craigs and Arthur's Seat is a morass of great extent; in wandering beside which, secluded from the prospect of every vestige of human habitation, hardly a living object to be seen, Arthur's-seat impending in silent dignity over the solitude, the ample breadth of Salisbury

heights spread out and rising on the opposite side of the valley, the mind is impressed with the idea of a wilderness far remote from the haunts of active citizens and the ceaseless bustle of a great city. This lonely place, however, is scarcely a mile distant from Edinburgh. Near the east end of this valley is the hermitage and chapel of St. Anthony, the remains of which are still to be seen, situated on a craggy steep, overhung by a rocky precipice; a spot, of all others, the most remarkable in the whole range of this peculiar assemblage of wild nature*. Near the foot of these rocks flows in a pure and copious stream the holy well of St. Anthony.

“ Now Arthur’s Seat shall be my bed,
The sheets shall ne’er be warm’d by me;
St. Anton’s well shall be my drink
Since my true love has forsaken me.

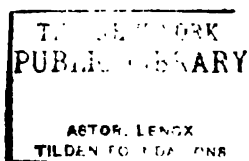
O Mart’mas wind, when wilt thou blow,
An’ shake the green leaves aff the tree?
O gentle death, when wilt thou come,
An’ take this life now that wearies me?”

are the plaintive wailings of a broken heart pathetically poured forth in the beautiful Scottish ballad from which these lines are extracted †.

* The author has not been able to ascertain at what time or by whom this hermitage and chapel were founded; neither can he say when this religious establishment was suffered to fall into decay. The order of St. Anthony had a monastery near Leith, the only establishment which that order had in Scotland. *Vide Hope’s Min. Pract.* p. 425. *Keith’s Catalogue*, p. 241. *Maitland’s Hist.* p. 152.

† “O waly, waly, gin love be bonny.” The author is in possession of three different airs to these words, two of which were never in print; they are believed to be the oldest, of course the genuine and original music of the song.

The



1712 P. 167



Engraved from the original by J. Macdonald

Edinburgh from the East.

London: Published March 1. 1802. by J. Macdonald, engraver to His Majesty the King.

The extensive prospects from almost every part of Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Craigs are so various and extensive as to bid defiance to the language of description. The views of Edinburgh from several stations are often picturesque, but universally striking; and when seen combined with the chief objects that surround it, together with the extreme distance in which the Grampian mountains appear, if finely illumined, the effect is truly sublime. One station, to which the stranger is directed, a little to the north-east (in the face of the hill) of the ruins of the Hermitage and St. Anthony's chapel, commands a prospect of this kind.

On gaining the height which rises at the south-west extremity of the valley between Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Craigs, we behold a stretch of country, which, for variety of objects, cultivation, and extent, is hardly to be elsewhere found within the range of a single glance. This is the county of Mid Lothian.

A little beyond this opening, to which there is a small descent, are what the people in the neighbourhood call the *Echoing Rocks*, from the circumstance of a remarkably distinct reverberation of sound, when made by voice or instrument, being heard at this ledge of rocks. Hither, when the weather is fine, in the spring and summer evenings, many of the citizens of Edinburgh resort, to hear, in their rambles, some one blow the hautboy, clarinet, or german-flute; or perhaps some amorous ditty is, in the mellifluous warblings of a female voice, poured on the ear; while babbling Echo in softened accents repeats the strain; thus melting the hearer, susceptible of the power of music over the active feelings of the soul, into the finer emotions of tenderness and love.

Should the visitant to these wilds not feel much fatigued, he may prolong his excursion; and, by traversing the southern base of Arthur's Seat along the path-way close under the *Hanging Rocks* *, and striking off to the left close in by the dike, immediately within sight of the church and village of Dudingston, keeping constantly ascending, he will reach the top of the mountain. Of one little accustomed to situations so high as the summit of Arthur's Seat, the novelty must impress the mind very powerfully. The wide and extended horizon, the multiplicity of objects, the vast height to look down from, are all calculated to excite sensations of the sublime, in the survey of such varied, extensive, and magnificent prospects.

The bird's eye view from this elevated spot, particularly to the south and east, immediately at the base of the mountain, is peculiarly pleasing. The clear reflective surface of the lake, on which stands the stately mansion of Priestfield † on the one side, and on the other, nearly opposite, elevated on a gentle eminence rising from the water's edge, the church and village of Dudingston; behind which, the Marquis of Abercorn's elegant Grecian villa is situated ‡, the ornamented grounds of which are beautifully disposed; and, a little to the right, seated on its wooded rock, the mouldering turrets of Craigmillar castle are seen; the whole assemblage, as the eye wanders over it, is indeed charm-

* So called from their peculiar appearance. They consist of vast prismatic columns of basalt, similar to those of the Cave of Fingal in Staffa, and of the Giant's Causeway in the county of Antrim in Ireland.

† Or Prestonfield, the property of Sir Alexander Dick.

‡ Dudingston-house was built after a plan of the late Sir William Chambers in the year 1768. The villa, gardens, office-houses, shrubberies, canals, bridges, planting, &c. were carried on at an expence exceeding 30,000l.

ing. To the east of the village of Dudingston, in the year 1745, the forces of the grandson of James VII. Charles-Edward, were encamped for some time prior to the battle of Preston-pans, to which field they marched from their encampment, and returned crowned with victory.

On the hills on which we now tread, did another military exhibition take place, not less remarkable than that which in 1745 appeared on the plain below. The Seaforth Highlanders had been raised during the early part of the American war, under the idea, on their part, of not being obliged to serve out of Europe. Their services, however, being required in India, it was proposed to send them thither without consulting their inclinations; but when they came to understand the intention of disposing of them in this way, they by no means favoured the business: moreover, they thought it but reasonable, that their arrears (which by bad management amounted to something considerable) should be paid them in the first place, and in the next, their consent asked to depart; they also desired to know the place of their destination: to all which they could not obtain any satisfactory information, or promise with regard to what was their due. The deliberations of soldiers generally end in mutiny, and so it happened in this instance. One morning, as the Seaforth Highlanders were at drill in Leith Links, while in their ranks, *standing easy*, a clamour arose on the subject of their arrears, going abroad, &c.—As if moved by some evil spirit, the whole corps shouldered firelock, set off at quick march, and halted not, nor looked behind them, till they gained the ridge of the hills, and fixed their head-quarters on the summit of Arthur's Seat. It was in vain to reason; Highlanders are stubborn, and when

when once resolved they are firm as the rocks on which they recline. Promises were made, but they smiled at these, knowing how former ones had been broken: threats were used, but they held them in derision; for they knew that foot soldiers would not dare to attack them, and that cavalry could not approach them thus posted. It was told them, that the castle would fire and dislodge them; but they knew the attempt would be vain, for they might retire behind the hills, and bid defiance to all the cannon of the ramparts. At length, the only way to gain them, so as to bring them to reason, though late, was adopted; and this was, sending to them those on whose honour they had some dependence. The late Lords Dunmore and Macdonald were deputed to enter into a parley with the wild *Mac Raas*; and having obtained this point, the negotiation was conducted with success, and soon settled to the satisfaction of the mutineers. They had but one small favour to request, namely, "leave to shoot *Finnie*," the adjutant of the corps; which favour was politely declined. They then returned to their allegiance and duty, and soon after embarked on foreign service: but *Finnie* their adjutant did not think it necessary to accompany them, lest they should take it into their heads to repeat "the sma' favour" on some *future day*.

The student in natural history will find in the environs of Edinburgh ample range for botanical and mineralogical observation, particularly about Dudingston Loch, Arthur's Seat, and Salisbury Craigs. "The mountain itself (says Mr. Bennet) contains four hundred species of plants, a number much beyond what Mr. Lightfoot has ascribed to it in his *Flora Scotica*. Dudingston Loch alone affords a curious variety of indigenous plants."

plants." Here follows a catalogue of some of the most remarkable of the *Inundatæ* and the *Palustræ* in the botanical technica. "The chief economical or agricultural uses which this beautiful assemblage of plants (continues this learned author) has hitherto served, is when by their decay and resolution they subside to the bottom of the lake, and contribute to form a rich and black mud, which has been found upon trial to constitute an excellent manure *." At the bottom of the lake is found also abundance of marle of different kinds and of excellent quality; which, though occasionally wrought, is strangely neglected.

From the beginning of summer till the latter end of December Dudingston Loch is covered with flocks of coots, and waterhens, who rear their broods, and emigrate to the salt water; whence they return when the season is mild, to nestle among the bulrushes and reeds that grow luxuriantly around the borders of the lake. Wild ducks, teal, and swans, also frequent this fine sheet of water. The swans are tame, and they breed very fruitfully: their elegant movements on the clear reflective bosom of the lake produces a pleasing effect, when viewed in conjunction with the scenery around it. In the king's museum, and that of the Antiquarian Society are a few coins, (the inscriptions effaced,) which, together with the blade of a sword, and the heads of some spears and javelins, (believed to be Roman,) were brought up from the bottom of the loch, in dragging for marle a few years ago †.

Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Craigs exhibit evident marks of what some mineralogists conceive to have been the production

* Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. of Dudingston.

† Ibid. p. 379-

of fire: and it must be confessed, there are grounds sufficient for indulging this hypothesis, to overturn which requires proofs that have not hitherto been adduced.

On leaving the summit of the hills, and descending to the lower grounds of the sanctuary, we retrace our steps to the palace; and thence proceed through the Watergate, by the north-back of the Canongate, till we come to the part where the pathway strikes off on the right, that leads to the New Town over the south acclivity of the Calton-hill; in ascending which, the old town and castle are seen curiously piled in masses of building the most fantastic conceivable.

But, in order to enjoy the prospects of the surrounding country to every possible advantage, from a less elevated situation than either of those already pointed out, the tourist, instead of going directly over the hill, ought to keep to the right, and gain the north-east shoulder, where the road winds round the heights. From this point the leading objects seem to approach nearer, and the several distances appear less disjoined and more in harmony as an eye-range, or even more appropriate, on a grand scale, for composition on canvass. It is remembered, that the ingenious contriver of the Panorama executed his first rude sketches in imitation of the views seen from the top of Calton-hill. This humble performance was first exhibited in one of the apartments of the ball-room of this city; afterwards the artist made a more successful attempt in London; since which period his ingenuity has met with that recompence which a generous public usually award to persons of persevering industry and talent.

From the north-east point above mentioned a magnificent view is commanded of Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Craigs, at the
foot

foot of which the Abbey and Abbey-hill form the side wing and fore-ground of this landscape : in the middle distance are Pierce-hill barracks, Loch End*, and Hawk-hill † ; immediately behind which, the sea beach from Leith to Musselburgh (comprehending the Feeget Whins ‡) composes the leading outline in the

* The low grounds lying between Loch End, the road to Leith, were, in the year 1456, by royal grant bestowed on the Edinburghers for the purpose of holding tournaments, chivalry being then at its height in this country. Arnot's Hist. p. 71. Maitland's Hist. p. 214. After the Reformation, part of this ground was also set apart for theatrical representations : the spot is called the *Greenfide Well*, and lies under the brow of the hill. Arnot, p. 76. Near the same spot (in the year 1520 or 1526) a convent for Carmelite friars was erected ; and, on the dissolution of religious houses in Scotland, on the site of this monastery, an hospital for leprous persons was founded (in 1591) by John Robertson, a merchant of Edinburgh, the rules of which were so strictly enforced as to punish a breach of them with death, and a gibbet for that purpose was set up at one end of the hospital. Maitland, p. 214. Hope's Min. Pract. p. 507.

† When the miseries of civil broils desolated this northern part of the island, during the reigns of Mary of Loraine and James VI. the Hawkhill and adjacent heights were deemed important military posts. On the 15th of April 1560, the French troops were driven from this station with great slaughter, caused by an attack made by the Scottish cavalry : but, in the May following, the English were less successful against the veterans of France, in an attempt to dislodge them from the same post. Robertson, vol. i. p. 194. Another smart skirmish took place near this spot on the 16th of June 1571, between the *King's men* and the *Queen's men*, as they were called. Birrell's Diary, p. 19. Scott's History, p. 449, 450.

‡ The *Feeget Whins* is a common of considerable length, consisting of furze and bent, along the sea beach between Leith and Portobello. " Before the battle of Dunbar, the leaders of the Scots demanded a conference with the usurper Cromwell : he consented to meet them on the morrow, half way between the Leith and Musselburgh rocks, at low water, upon the sands, each party to be accompanied with one hundred horsemen. Any question they might choose to propose he agreed to answer ; but declined admitting of any animadversion or reply. A part of this curious but unsuccessful conference is reported to have been in these words : Why did you put the king to death ? Because he was a tyrant, and deserved death. Why did you dissolve the parliament ? Because they were greater tyrants than the king, and required dissolution." Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 377.

farther distance. The fertile shores of East Lothian stretching into the German ocean, and forming the bay of Gulen, studded with sea-port towns and villas, make an interesting feature *. In the extreme distance, the conic hill of North Berwick, and the huge solid rock called the Bass, appear the chief objects. On the opposite side of the Frith of Forth, Largo Bay, Largo Law, and the beautifully indented openings and headlands along the Fifeshire coast, bound this delightful prospect on the north.

Having surveyed the series of objects which compose the vast picture that this station commands, we proceed onward till we come to the north shoulder or angle of the hill, from which a view, though perhaps less extensive, yet not less worthy of admiration, is seen. Leith, Inchkeith, the coast of Fife, with the Lomond hills terminating the prospect, are the leading features in this grand scene.

On turning round this point, an eye-range more extensive and picturesque than either of the former presents to view. In the extreme distance, the Grampian mountains blend with the azure softness of the sky. The nearer distance is composed of the Ochil hills, the chief of which is Dunmeat, to the north of Stirling, bending over the windings of the Forth. This mountainous district approaches the middle distance, in which, to the eye, the Frith of Forth seems land-locked by the heights on

* The principal villa discernible from this station is that lately built by the earl of Wemyss. It is certainly the most elegant of the kind north of the Tweed. When furnished with suitable ornaments, &c. and when his Lordship's valuable collection of statues, busts, and paintings, is arranged in it, few places will be found more deserving of a visit than this truly magnificent villa.

either

either side of the Queen's-Ferry. Should a gleam of sunshine chance to fall in the direction of this vast valley through which the river winds its course, Dunfermline, Inverkeithing, and Inchcolm with its ruins, form interesting and pleasing objects in the scene before us. Dunbirstle and Aberdour on the Fife side, Barnbogle and Cramond on the Lothian side, with the lesser islets (among which vessels are seen sailing) in the Frith between, are fine features in the nearer distance. And approaching the fore-ground, the charming villas of Inverleith, Wariston, Belberne, and a multitude of others nearer the sea-shore, amid corn fields, meadows, and pleasure grounds, greatly enliven and beautify this extensive and magnificent prospect. The peculiar situation from which this grand landscape is viewed, over tops of houses, from a precipice almost perpendicular, adds greatly to the sublimity of the scene. While the eye thus passes over one pleasing prospect after another, the mind is occupied in contemplating the infinite variety of pursuits in which the inhabitants of these regions are engaged: whether in the field, in the valley, on hill or mountain, on the bosom of the Frith, or out of sight among the windings of the Forth, in the sequestered hamlet, the well-stored farmstead, the family mansion, the industrious village, the busy sea-port town, and commercial borough; each appropriate spot containing individuals eager in the toil of human affairs; while all are hastening down the stream of time with more or less rapidity, as the casualties of fortune seem to impel. Thus, while the eye is feasting, the understanding participates in the banquet: the visible creation coinciding with that of the mental, gives birth to that pleasure which the imagination delights to revel in; and the

finer feelings of the soul are gratified, while intellect and sense reciprocally contribute to the rational enjoyment of existence.

Proceeding onward, we next observe a partial prospect of the old part of the city terminated by the castle; and turning the south-west corner of the hill, below the Observatory *, Bridewell comes in sight, the *modern Bastile* of the Scottish capital †. It is built on a chosen spot, formerly the scene of broken heads and bloody noses, during the earlier period of the American war, when *Bickers*, as they are called, were held on the Calton-hill. These bickerings, or set skirmishes, took place almost every evening a little before dusk, and lasted till night parted the combatants; who were, generally, idle apprentices, of mischievous dispositions, that delighted in chacing each other from knoll to knoll with sticks and stones. This pastime, however, was eventually a prelude to more serious business; for in the

* Of the various departments of science, astronomy has made the least progress at the University of Edinburgh: the Observatory is, of consequence, but too much neglected. So far back as the year 1736, and about 1741, while the ingenious Mac-laurin was professor of mathematics and natural philosophy, an attempt was made to establish an institution for astronomical improvement: but not until the year 1776 was the present Observatory erected; "a half finished work (says Arnot) on the highest hill of Edinburgh, speaking this emphatic language to the eye of every beholder: Here is a building which the folly of its contrivers led them to begin, without considering that, by their poverty, they were unable to finish it." Hist. of Edin. p. 417.

† The foundation stone of the Bridewell was laid with great ceremony on St. Andrew's day 1791. While this huge mass was building, a Baron of the Scottish Exchequer, well known in the literary world, was heard to say, "The magistrates of this ancient city seem solicitous in providing for their sons and daughters, in due time, a comfortable residence in as airy a situation as possible. God grant that it may not happen in my day, lest I should be obliged to pay my respects to my friends in this *New Bastile*, about to be opened for the reception of the lawless and disobedient." About that time the new doctrines of France were spreading fast in Scotland.

year

year 1778 *the gude toun o' Embro'*, in testimony of a cordial concurrence in the measures then pursued by an able and upright ministry in the bold attempt to subdue America by force of arms, actually raised a regiment (viz. the 80th foot) to co-operate for that purpose; in which regiment many of the Calton-hill heroes served as *Edinburgh volunteers* against the *rebellious Yankies*.

On the south-west brow of the Calton-hill the tomb of DAVID HUME appears; distinguished from others near it by its elegance and simplicity. It is of a circular form, in the stile of a Grecian tower. Over the entrance, the name, nativity, and death of this illustrious metaphysician and historian are inscribed. Above this, there is a niche: but an urn or a bust is still wanting.

The leading incidents in the life of Hume are left us, written by himself. Of the few natives of the Scottish capital who distinguished themselves in the late century, HENRY DUNDAS and DAVID HUME, both bred to the bar, start forward from the canvass of biographical sketches with peculiar energy. To the latter of these portraits, a few lines, in this place, come naturally to be devoted.

Our historian was born at Edinburgh on the 26th April 1711. A younger brother of a respectable, though not wealthy family, his patrimony did little more than defray the necessary expences of an elementary course of education previous to his entrance at the bar. At the age of twenty-three he made an attempt to settle in the city of Bristol: but the busy scene of a commercial town was unsuitable to the contemplative mind of Hume. From Bristol he retired to France, where he studied the philosophy of

the human mind; and, on his return to London in the year 1738 he published his "Treatise on Human Nature;" but, as he himself informs us, this master-piece of genius "fell dead-born from the press." In 1742 he published the first part of his *Essays*; and this publication was more fortunate than the former. Still, however, he had to struggle against the powerful tide of ignorance and prejudice: yet his philosophy seemed not to have forsaken him till, on the publication of the two first volumes of his *History of England*, in 1754, which were coldly received, he peevishly resolved "to change his name, and never more to return to his native country." But his "Political discourses," which were published in 1751, having got into circulation in a manner favourable to the reception of that work, by degrees the historian began to be more successful in his labours. Reconciled to the caprices of fortune which an author has too frequently to encounter, Hume once more resumed the pen, and went on with his *History*; which having completed, he returned to France; and in 1765 we find him at Paris as *Chargé des Affaires* *.

In 1769, he returned to his native city, not to practise at the Scottish bar, but to enjoy that dignified ease which his celebrity as a writer, and a comfortable independence of fortune, were calculated to ensure. Here, amidst his literary friends, among whom were Robertson, Lord Kaimes, Smith, Lord Monboddo, Blair, Black, Henry, Hutton, and a numerous list of Scottish literati now no more, he spent the remainder of his days. On

* It was during this stay at Paris that Hume's and Rousseau's attachment took place, which terminated so strangely, owing to the unhappy sensibility of mind possessed by the latter.

the 25th of August 1776, our historian breathed his last. He died, as he lived, in the communion of no religious sect whatsoever: calm and composed he sunk to rest, leaving behind a name as sacred to virtue, as dear to science and elegant literature. The charms of composition are his in an eminent degree. His writings have gained him memory almost as many enemies as his doctrines have made proselytes. Future ages will judge wherein his followers were right, and how far his enemies were justified in their acrimonious attacks and censures.

Within these twenty years, the Calton burying-ground has been greatly occupied as a repository for the dead. It is not consecrated ground; but superstition is gradually wearing away; and the present generation, less scrupulous with regard to the sanctity of a spot made holy by the benediction of a bishop, than were those whose remains have accumulated the swollen-up mounds of the church yards of the city and its environs, bury their departed relatives in a more elevated situation, at a reasonable distance from the habitations of the living; which ought ever to be attended to as proper in all respects.

In descending from the Calton-hill, we cross over to Leith-street: on the right hand is Leith-terrace, consisting of a row of high buildings, having shops leading off the causeway, roofed in with plain stones, which also form the pavement, or terrace, for foot-passengers to and from Leith; hence its name Leith-terrace. At the upper end of the terrace is the REGISTER OFFICE*, a building

* The foundation-stone of this public building was laid by lord Frederick Campbell (then lord register) on the 27th of July 1774. The ceremony was solemn and impressive. A discharge of cannon announced the commencement of a magnificent repository

building remarkable for elegance of design and beauty of workmanship. Opposite to the Register Office is the THEATRE ROYAL, whose paltry appearance is in complete contrast with the stately grace and proportion of the former noble pile; the view of which it greatly obstructs. The inside of the playhouse, however, is well planned, and commodiously fitted up for the business of the stage, as well as for the ease and comfort of the audience.

The history of the Scottish stage exhibits a series of opposition, riot, and cabal. No sooner had the plays of miracles, mysteries, and moralities ceased, and the church dropped the curtain, never more to rise, on the *sacred drama* †, than, on the dawn of the Reformation, secular exhibitions began to appear north of the Tweed.

It is well known, that theatrical entertainments called *Interludes* were common in Scotland so early as the minority of James V.

repository for our national records. The design of this elegant structure was composed by the ingenious Robert Adams, architect. One half only of this pile is reared; and when the other half will be raised is a matter of great uncertainty. It is to consist of a square of two hundred feet, having a dome of fifty feet diameter in the centre. The front, and one half of each wing, together with the dome, were finished, and fitted up for the reception of records, &c. about ten years ago; in the centre of the dome is a marble statue executed by the honourable Mrs. Damer. His present Majesty, at the request of the late Earl of Morton, (then lord register) made a grant, in the year 1765, out of the forfeited estates, of 12,000l. which lay at interest till the erection of the building; it is hoped that another like grant will not be withheld; so that this chief ornament of our city might be, at last, completed according to the original design.

† “The theatre (says Arnot), which in the canting phrase of modern fanaticism is styled the temple of the Infernal Dæmon, originated solely from the church. The subjects were scriptural, the clergy the composers, the church was the stage, and Sunday the time of exhibition.”—Arnot’s Hist. of Edin. p. 74. See also Warton’s Hist. of English Poetry; Voltaire’s Hist. Gen. Campbell’s Introduction to the Hist. of Poetry in Scotland, &c.

Nay,

Nay, prior to this period, some traces of dramatic exhibitions, as mentioned by writers of authority, are discoverable in Scotland *. In the year 1593, when James IV. married Margaret of England, one John Inglish and his company performed at the nuptials of the royal pair †; and in 1538, when Mary of Lorraine came to Scotland to espouse our fifth James, "there were at Edinburgh great triumphs, farces, and plays, made unto the Queen's grace ‡."

The celebrated Scottish poet Sir David Lindsay (the friend and companion of James V.) wrote several dramatic pieces in his vernacular dialect, which were acted at the play-fields of Coupar (in Fife) and of Edinburgh in the open air, "*when weather served* ||." But these dramas, consisting chiefly of a strange mixture of obscenity and satire, gave great offence to the monks and friars, as it exposed somewhat grossly their scandalous lives. Of consequence, so barefaced an attack was roughly repelled, and eventually crushed; for, in the month of March 1558-9, a council of the clergy, held in the Blackfriars church, Edin-

* See Note on "Ane littil interlude of the Droichis," p. 301 of *Anc. Scot. Poems*, edited by the late lord Hailes.

† See Prologue to "The Auld Man and his Wife," by Sir D. Lindsay; Pinkerton's edition.

‡ Leland's *Collectanea*, edit. 1770, vol. iv. p. 258; Pitscottie's *History*, p. 251. 3d edit.

|| It appears from an original letter inserted in the appendix of Pinkerton's *History of the Jameses*, that the earliest effort of the Dramatic Muse north of the Tweed, viz. "*Ane Satyre of the Three Estates*, in commendation of verteu and virturpation of vyce," maid be Sir David Lindsay of the Mount," was played at the feast of the Epiphany, January 1539, at "Lithgoe before the kinge and quene." This play was printed at Edinburgh by R. Charteris, in 1602; Mr. G. Paton's copy is now in the possession of the duke of Roxburgh.

burgh, ordained, that Sir David Lindsay's book containing his poems and plays should be burnt by the hands of the common executioner*.

It appears, however, that soon after the reformed religion obtained in Scotland, dramatic exhibitions revived. On the 17th of January 1568, "a play made by Robert Semple" was enacted at Edinburgh, before the regent Murray and several of the Scottish nobility†. In the year 1592 a company of players from England was licensed by James VI. to perform within Edinburgh, which gave great offence to the clergy. An act of *Kirk-session*, prohibiting people from resorting to places of profane amusement, on pain of church censure, was, in November 1599, annulled by an ordinance of royal authority; dramatic exhibitions therefore went on as formerly.

In the year 1603, *Philatus*, a comedy, was printed at Edinburgh; there is reason to believe it to have been the production of Robert Semple which was exhibited before the regent Murray, as mentioned above. In the same year also was published *Darius*, a tragedy, and in the year following three other tragedies, written by Sir William Alexander of Minstrie, afterwards Earl of Stirling.

During the national commotions in the reign of Charles I., and the civil wars of Cromwell's usurpation, no traces of theatrical exhibitions are to be found north of the Tweed. Soon after

* They made an act, that Sir David Lindsay's book should be abolished and burned. Pittscottie's Hist. p. 315, of 3d edit. In arranging Sir D. Lindsay's dramatic pieces, the order seems nearly as follows: Satyre of the Three Estaites, A. D. 1539; Eight Interludes, 1552. See Pinkerton's edit. vol. ii.; Scottish Poems 1792; also Arnet's Hist. of Edin. Appendix.

† See Birrel's Diary, p. 14.

the Restoration, however, when the earl of Rothes was high commissioner of Scotland, on the festival of St. John, a play called "*Marciano, or the Discovery*," by Sir *Thomas Sydserff*, was acted before his grace and his court at Holyroodhouse. While the duke of York (afterward James II.) resided at the palace of Holyroodhouse, in the years 1679, 80, and 81, a company of comedians attended his royal highness, and performed privately in the Tennis-hall before him and his suite.

The abdication of the tyrant James ; the accession of William ; the British throne once more filled by a female sovereign ; and, under her auspices, the union of both sections of our island ; these were events which had taken place, and so completely occupied the minds of men, that little encouragement was held out to stage-adventurers, where religion and politics, poverty and prejudice, bore such mighty sway among the rigid Presbyterians of the north. Hence we find no mention made of plays or players in this part of the country till the year 1714, "when a number of the Scottish nobility and gentry were convened at Edinburgh, at the time of a grand procession of the Royal company of archers, and the play of *Macbeth* was performed in the Tennis-hall formerly mentioned. National airs, at that time, were as much in vogue as at present ; the favourite song "*May the king enjoy his ain again*," was by a part of the audience loudly demanded ; while another part as firmly rejected the proposal ; a disturbance immediately ensued, that had nearly ended in consequences by no means honourable to either party*." Soon after this affair at the Tennis-hall, the rebellion broke out,

* Campbell's Introduction to the History of Poetry in Scotland, p. 353.

the fruits of which were, miscarriage, proscription, and all the miseries attendant on civil war. When a calm succeeded the storm, however, itinerant parties occasionally visited Edinburgh ; but the godly among the *true-blue* Presbyterians, and especially the clergy, taking alarm at the countenance shown these strolling votaries of Thespis, by the vain and deluded of the congregation, made a grand effort of their influence, aided by the civil power, and, in the year 1727, the magistrates of Edinburgh, zealous to preserve, uncontaminated by stage profanation, that religion which their martyred forefathers had but lately sealed with their blood, in conjunction with the ecclesiastical court of that city, made a bold attempt to expel the players from acting in any quarter within the limits to which their authority extended *. Meanwhile, “ *An act and exhortation* ” was fulminated from the pulpits against resorting to dramatic performances, in temples consecrated to the father of lies. The players, however, had their friends in the city ; and, notwithstanding the high influence and authority exerted against them, they did not despair. The interdiction of the magistrates was artfully brought under the review of the court of session ; and, in the year 1728, while the cause was pending, a new company, protected by the nobility and the gentlemen of the bar, re-opened the theatre in the Tennis-hall of the palace of Holyroodhouse. The clergy beheld all this with an evil eye. Having gained stability, consequence, and power, they were now in a condition to attack the temple of Belial with tenfold fury ; their efforts, together with the united aid of the university of Edin-

* Annot's Hist. of Edin. p. 367.

burgh and the magistrates of the city, at last effected the downfall of the stage; and theatrical entertainments were for a time suspended in the Scottish capital *. Nevertheless, a taste for the elegant pursuits of literature spreading its happy influence among the more enlightened citizens of the metropolis, a desire for the feast of mental enjoyment, as prepared by Shakespeare and the dramatic writers of our sister nation, gradually opened the doors of the temple of the tragic and comic muses; and while the clergy railed on, the laity, unheeding their ghostly counsel, stole softly to the benches of the little theatres, which were erected every night, to the exclusion of all but the true votaries of the stage †. At length, in the year 1746, after the civil commotions had subsided, a small theatre was erected in a back area near St. John's cross, Canongate; the foundation-stone of which was laid by Mr. Ryan, of Covent Garden.

Thus, in defiance of every opposition, legal or ecclesiastical, theatrical establishments in Scotland obtained the patronage of the learned, the gay, and even the grave with whom taste and elegant literature were held estimable in polished society. Those ornaments of the Scottish bar and pulpit that have successively appeared since the period above alluded to, and who profited by theatrical recitations, afford the best comment on this acquisition to the rational amusements of the northern section of our island.

* An act was passed A. D. 1737, prohibiting stage-plays in Scotland.

† About the year 1736, the celebrated Allan Ramsay undertook to build, at his own expence, a play-house in Carruber's-cloze, in which afterwards the town's people and itinerant companies exhibited dramatic pieces; but the act passed in 1737 against stage-plays proved fatal to Ramsay's speculation.

But the Scottish stage had ever to encounter unpropitious circumstances and untoward events. The Canongate theatre was built partly by private subscription and partly on credit. About the year 1752, Mr. Lee, an actor of that period eminently qualified for conducting theatrical concerns, purchased from the original proprietors the little theatre, Canongate, for 648l. and 100l. per annum during the lives of the lessees. Notwithstanding Lee's abilities both as an actor and manager, his affairs rendered it prudent for certain members of the College of Justice, as well as other persons of property who were bondsmen for him, to have the whole property of the theatre vested in themselves. Accordingly, Lee having failed to make good his engagements, the gentlemen of the long robe knew how to take care of their own interests: the manager was dismissed, and the senators of the College of Justice appointed James Callender, a merchant of Edinburgh, as their agent for conducting the business of the stage.

About this time a man of a prepossessing figure and address made his appearance on the Edinburgh boards, namely, DIGGES, well known in Dublin as an accomplished actor. Him it was who, at Callender's invitation, came to Edinburgh as acting-manager when this new arrangement had taken place. Under Digges's management, things, for a time, went on smoothly; but his style of living, little consonant to that of a *sturdy beggar*, involved him in pecuniary embarrassments, and forced him to quit Edinburgh rather hastily. Still, however, Mr. Callender continued to act for those concerned in the property of the theatre; and, in conjunction with Mr. Love, a performer of respectability, carried on for some time the management of the Edinburgh stage.

At

At length, tired of the teasing and vexatious business of a theatre, Mr. Callender relinquished his connection with Love; on which occasion David Beat, another citizen of Edinburgh, joined Love, and they exerted themselves to please the town. To Love succeeded John Dawson*, of Newcastle.

Beat and Dawson gave little satisfaction to the public in their mode of management; an instance of which is recorded, little to the credit of either the managers, their company of comedians, or the public, to whom no small portion of blame must attach †. “Dissentions arose among the performers, which the managers were unable to allay. Each party had their friends among the public. The gentlemen of the long robe took a deep concern in the quarrel. The students in the university did not remain neutral. In a riot which ensued, the Canon-gate theatre was totally demolished; and the performers, who had drawn this ruin on themselves, were left in extreme necessity ‡.”

This disaster proved no less ruinous to the managers and performers than to the proprietors, who found themselves involved in a pecuniary embarrassment, with little hope of being extricated from it with safety and success. An action of damages was

* Or Dawson.

† A. D. 1767.

‡ Arnot's History of Edin. p. 371. Besides the disturbance above mentioned, there were others of a similar nature, viz. the riot on the anniversary of the battle of Culloden, and the riot upon acting “High Life below Stairs.” The last disturbance but one was in June 1788, on account of some misunderstanding respecting who should play the part of *Jaffier* to Mrs. Siddons's *Belvidera* in *Venice Preserved*. See Jackson's History of the Scottish Stage; also Fennel's Statement. The last riot was, when the late manager, Mr. Stephen Kemble, imprudently it was thought, brought on the Edinburgh stage the tragedy of *Charles I.*

brought:

brought before the Court of Session against those who were concerned in the riot: this the rioters artfully warded off, by a counter-action against the plaintiffs, founded on their having been concerned in theatrical matters in open defiance of an act of the legislature. "The ludicrousness of the case was perceived, (observes the author above quoted) and both actions were dropped*.

The theatre was once more fitted up, and from time to time performers of eminence found their account in visiting the Scottish capital †. An Edinburgh audience, at the period when the tragedy of DOUGLAS was brought on the stage, had as critics to guide the public taste, a Robertson, a Blair, a Webster, a Carlisle, among the clergy; a Dalrymple ‡, a Burnet §, a Home ||, among the lawyers; besides many among the general mass eminently qualified to take the lead in matters of taste as well as judgment. Hence, the Edinburgh stage was deservedly considered a genial hot-bed for theatrical cions of hopeful promise: and it still retains the same warmth for performers of rising merit, an affectionate indulgence, bordering, it is feared, on good nature, but too often abused by the artful intrigues or parsimonious manœuvres of cunning or niggardly managers.

The first performance of the tragedy of *Douglas* forms an eventful era in the history of the Scottish stage. About this

* The evasion usually resorted to in theatrical representations was, that of "a concert of music, with a play between the acts."

† Among the number were, Digges (already mentioned), Mr. Bellamy, Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Baker, Mr. Rofs, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Smith, Mr. Aickin, Mr. Griffith, Lancashire, and others of less note.

‡ Afterwards Lord Hailes.

§ Lord Monboddo.

|| Lord Kames.

time elegant literature had made considerable progress among the Scottish clergy, whose ideas had expanded beyond the gloomy shade of fanaticism; and the rigid rules of church-discipline, less heeded in practice than in theory, began gradually to give way to the charms of polished society. Yet the truth of this remark seems questionable, when the circumstances respecting the tragedy of Douglas pass in view.

On the night of the 14th of December 1756, the tragedy of Douglas was first presented to an Edinburgh audience. The play was received favourably; but when its author was understood to be a clergyman of the established *Kirk of Scotland*, the pure in spirit of his holy brethren opened their mouths against the prophane poet. He heard all, and trembled in secret, well knowing the influence and power which preachers of the gospel of all descriptions have over the minds of the weak and the prejudiced, when an end is in view which they earnestly endeavour to compass. The author of Douglas had his friends, and, if report speaks true, associates, among his brethren of the clergy, who also were implicated in the charge. The hue and cry was once more raised against stage-plays, play-wrights, and stage-actors; for the church was in danger: the Presbytery declared it openly; and the pulpits vehemently resounded with denunciations against all who frequented the "*dangerous entertainments of the stage*." The storm, however, abated; and the accomplished author of this popular tragedy relinquished a profession whose sanctity his muse had violated. He yet lives, and has had the satisfaction to see the prejudice of his country against dramatic entertainments completely subdued; and in its stead, a predilection, bordering on enthusiasm, in favour of stage-plays and play-actors

universally obtain. How otherwise could it be, when Shakespear, Otway, Thomson, and a multitude of others, yield the richest stores of genius; and while a Hartley, a Barry, a Yates, a Jordan, an Esten, a Siddons, graced in successive triumphs the boards of the Edinburgh theatre. Nor will it ever be forgotten, that, Garrick alone excepted, hardly a player of any eminence in England or in Ireland, but has snatched a wreath from the partial hand of the genius of the Scottish stage.

But to return to our narrative. So far had public opinion altered in favour of stage performances, that in the year 1768 a new playhouse, since dignified by the title of "THEATRE ROYAL," was begun and was opened in December 1769*, under the management of Mr. David Ross, of Covent Garden theatre. This gentleman, having become patentee (by purchase) under the sanction of law, for a short time continued his labour; but with such ill success as greatly to damp the ardour with which he encountered the difficulties of theatrical business. An unforeseen accident too taking place, before the house was completed, considerably lessened his expectations as to the profits of the ensuing season. This accident was no other than the downfall of the North-bridge; by which the direct communication from the city to the theatre was cut off. Moreover, the enemies of stage performances saw the hand of Providence manifest in thus graciously permitting the broad way to the temple of Satan to be suddenly laid in ruins. Happily but few lives were lost when the bridge fell; which circumstance greatly added, in the minds of the pious disciples of Whitfield, (from whose

* The expence of the house, wardrobe, and scenery, amounted to about 5000l. sterling. Arnot's Hist. p. 372.

preaching

preaching a vast concourse of people had, but a few minutes before the dreadful crash took place, retired to their own homes, most of whom passed by way of the bridge) to the miraculous interposition of Heaven. Nevertheless, the bridge being rebuilt, and the theatre opened, such is the perverseness of human nature, that even some of the godly themselves were seen to enter the house of the *arch-scorner*; where the sons and daughters of the land partook of entertainments prepared by profane authors, and exhibited by "*vagrants, common-players, vagabonds, and sturdy-beggars.*"

Ross, having failed in his expectations the first season, let the theatre to FOOTE, who brought down such a company the second opening of the house as insured success*; a proof of which is, that Foote, after paying the rent and all contingencies, cleared upwards of a thousand pounds, with which he returned to London, leaving, for a pecuniary consideration, the amount of which is not known, the management and profits arising therefrom in the hands of Messrs. Digges and Bland. Mr. Bland (the uncle of the celebrated Mrs. Jordan, formerly the partner of Ross), a steady, upright character, continued to manage in conjunction with Digges; and, having obtained from Ross, a renewal of their lease, they went on with various success, till Digges was once more obliged to quit Edinburgh, for reasons best known to himself and his creditors.

Mr. Bland continued as treasurer to the theatre, and acting-manager occasionally, while Signior Dominico Corri (now music-seller in the Haymarket) and Mr. Wilkinson of York

* Among the number were Weston and Woodward. Arnot's Hist. p. 373.

successively held the current lease; till, in November 1781, Mr. John Jackson purchased the theatre, wardrobe, scenery, &c. from the late patentee Mr. David Ross. Mr. Jackson had the management of the Edinburgh theatre for ten years. To him succeeded Mr. Stephen Kemble; under whose direction it remained till November 1800; when being once more taken by Mr. Jackson, in conjunction with Mr. Aikin of Liverpool, the theatrical entertainments of the Scottish capital were resumed*.

Thus, in the imperfect sketch here exhibited of the Scottish stage, the remark formerly made, that the history of the drama in North Britain holds up to view a series of opposition, riot, and cabal, is fully verified; and were the general outline of this slight draught filled up in due breadth of light and shade, many interesting groupes would start forward, on which the attention of the lover of the stage would eagerly fix. It would be seen, at the same time, that while our southern neighbours the Anglo-Saxons, to whose capital the seat of empire was removed, were delighted with the muse of Shakespeare, of his contemporaries, and of his successors, the drama among the Scoto-Saxons had sunk into total neglect. And although Drummond (who, as he himself informs us, "was the first that in this island englished the Madrigal," and, in imitation of the divine *Petrarch*, "did celebrate a mistress dead") was well qualified to write for the stage, and his compatriot, the earl of Stirling, had actually done so; and while France, with whom Scotland formerly was in habits

* For details at length of the Scottish stage, see Arnot's Hist. of Edinburgh; Jackson's Hist. of the Scot. Stage; Mrs. Bellamy's Memoirs of her own Life; and Mr. Wilkinson's ditto. And for a list of Dramatic Writers, natives of Scotland, see Campbell's Introduction of Poetry in Scotland.

of mutual amity, witnessed on the stage the masterly productions of *Racine* and *Corneille*; while, at the same time, Italy could boast her *Ariosto* and *Tasso*, and Spain her *Cervantes*, *Lopez de Vega*, and a long list of dramatic authors; in Scotland, by the departure of regal state, and the emigration of the muses in consequence of that event, the gloomy fanaticism which succeeded, overshadowing every species of innocent amusement in the kingdom, which had thus been deprived of the gaiety and splendour of a court, together with civil broils and political contentions, hardly a vestige of theatrical entertainments can be traced till after the middle of the eighteenth century, as hath already been shewn.

Having conducted the stranger to the various places the description of which, and the circumstances therewith connected, occupy the pages allotted to this part of the work, the author deems one day's ramble through that part of the city and its immediate environs which ought, in his apprehension, to be first visited, to be completed. He next proceeds in the interval between the first and second day's excursion, to give a rude sketch of the rise and progress of the capital, to the time of its latest improvement.

The cities of Venice, Amsterdam, Paris and London, (particularly the two former,) owe their origin to small beginnings. The persevering industry of a few fishers, it is said, of each of these immense capitals, laid the foundation of the wealth and magnificence of the first emporia of the universe. But Edinburgh, like Rome, has the first period of its existence involved in fabulous obscurity.

EDINBURGH, or *Duneidin* * (as it is called by the GAEL of the Grampian mountains) is mentioned by our earlier historians as a place of strength in the seventh century †. In the twelfth century, however, it appears to have been for some time erected into a burgh-royal, as it is expressly mentioned in the charter of foundation of the abbey of Holyroodhouse, (granted by David I. A. D. 1128,) and is there styled "*Burgo meo de Edwiniburg*;" from which circumstance we may safely conclude that it was looked on as a place of some importance long before that period. An historical fact may serve to illustrate this remark. In the year 1093, Margaret, the queen of Malcolm Canmore, died in the castle (Duneidin) a few days after the death of her husband, and during the siege of that fortress, by her brother-in-law Donald Bane, who had usurped the throne, and made an attempt to seize her and her children, that all obstacles might be removed between him and his designs: but want of skill and due caution rendered this bold attempt ineffectual. In the mean time

* To retail what writers have suggested with regard to the etymology of the name and origin of Edinburgh, would be a waste of time and words. *Burgh*, derived from the Saxon *Burg*, and *Dun* (pronounced like *Deen*), which is the Gaelic for the same thing, signifying *tower* or *castle*; Edin, or Edwin, perhaps meaning the Northumbrian prince of that name: thus Duneidin, or Edinburgh, must mean the tower or castle of Edwin. Hence the name of the Scottish capital.

† "The oldest writings in Anderson's Diplomata (says Lord Hailes) are in Duncan's time 1094 or so. But they are to monks, and monks of authority. Monks could forge, and it is supposed they did so without scruple. The oldest writ of a layman in Anderson's Diplomata is by Malcolm IV. circa ann. 1153." Remarks on some of the editions of the oldest Acts of Parl. of Scotland. Hence the Scottish records referred to by our earlier historians are not to be trusted without due consideration.

the queen died, and the royal infants, having escaped, were conveyed privately to England, where they were placed in safety under the protection of their uncle Edgar Atheling *. In the year 1174, Edinburgh castle was one of the garrisons ceded to the English at the time William the Lion was taken prisoner in the neighbourhood of Alnwick †. When peace was concluded between the contending parties, and the marriage of the Scottish king and Ermergarde, daughter to the earl of Beaumont, had been solemnized, Edinburgh was restored as a gift in honour of the occasion. The capital of Scotland was, for a considerable length of time, confined within the precinct of the castle. The incursions of the English rendered this precaution necessary. Hence we find, that, on their expulsion beyond the Tweed, Edinburgh became more populous; and the two extremes of the high street, from the Abbey of Holyroodhouse to the gates of the castle, gradually meeting where the Netherbow formerly stood and the Canongate commences, formed the principal part of the town. But the houses were poorly constructed, and of mean appearance: yet, as the Scottish kings occasionally held their parliaments ‡ at Edinburgh, its citizens came by degrees to acquire wealth, and consequently influence with the court.

From the period when our first James was murdered by his unnatural uncle, who suffered the punishment due to his crime :

* Annals of Scotland, p. 114.

† Maitland's Hist. of Edin. p. 7. Arnot's Hist. p. 9. Their authorities are found in the Inventory to the city cartulary.

‡ The first parliament held in Edinburgh was in the reign of Alexander II. A. D. 1215. *Vide* Fordun, lib. ix. c. 27. Annals of Scot. p. 155. The last parliament was held immediately previous to the Union, 1709.

in Edinburgh *, that burgh seems to have gained daily an accession of importance, pre-eminent in a high degree. The son of the murdered king was crowned at the palace of Holyroodhouse. His son and successor, James III. then an infant but seven years old, immediately on his coming to the throne retired with his mother to the castle of Edinburgh. About the same time (A. D. 1461) Henry VI. of England, in his exile, experienced, during his residence in Edinburgh, the greatest kindness from its inhabitants; and, had that unfortunate monarch been recalled to his native dominions, his good intentions might have proved of infinite advantage to that rising burgh †.

James III. who is represented by our historians as a weak prince, was, notwithstanding, possessed of a desire to distinguish his reign by an attention to the fine arts. Hence it is observable, that some of the choicest remains of architecture, in many of our cities, owe their origin to the taste for building in the time in which he lived. Edinburgh was favoured with his particular regard. St. Giles, the chief ornament of the old town, was, in 1466, erected by him into a collegiate church; and there is reason to believe, that if he did not build this handsome edifice, he at least added greatly to its beauty. It appears also, that Edinburgh was pretty nearly in the same state in which it was immediately prior to the extension and improvements that took place in the year 1763 ‡.

The citizens of Edinburgh, ever marked for loyalty to their lawful sovereign, experienced in the reign of the Jameses many marks of royal favour. James III., in particular, conferred

* Drummond's Hist. of the Jameses, p. 17.

† Maitland; Arnot.

‡ Ibid.

high privileges on the municipality of this ancient borough. The romantic James IV. led into the fatal field of Flouden many of the inhabitants of Edinburgh, who never returned. To add to its miseries, this city was laid waste by pestilence; and the magistrates found it necessary to demolish several houses in which infected persons had sunk under the disease.

Edinburgh was now become a town, the first magistrate of which was frequently chosen from among the most distinguished of the Scottish nobles. Hence we find, that during the minority of James V. the duke of Albany, then Regent, issued an order forbidding the citizens to elect any of the name of Douglas or Hamilton (the chiefs of whom were the earls of Angus and Arran) as Lord Provost of Edinburgh. A manifest proof of the increasing consequence of this burgh, when such powerful houses considered the being appointed its chief magistrate as a matter of the first importance. We also find, that during the turbulent times of Mary and of her son James VI., when Edinburgh was become the seat of government, and the courts of Law were held in it, persons resorted thither from all parts of the kingdom, as well as embassies from foreign courts, whose attendants, &c. necessarily required lodgings, though, if report be to be credited, those were far from being elegant, or even comfortable. This influx of people threw into the town much money, and of consequence increased the influence and power of the wealthy part of its inhabitants. An example of this kind, during the violent struggle of the Scottish covenanters and court party for power, occurs in the singular circumstance of the Lord Provost of Edin-

burgh *, a merchant, lending to the insurgents no less a sum than 20,000*l.* sterling; which, to be sure, beggared his family, and he himself died a neglected debtor in prison.

The accession of James VI. to the English throne, the subsequent vicissitudes of the reigns of his son, grandson, and great-grand-daughters, and, above all, the union of the two kingdoms, were circumstances highly inimical to the flourishing state of the Scottish capital. Still, however, the courts of law and the University were places of attraction for a greater influx of strangers to Edinburgh than to any other town north of the Tweed.

It had been a favourite speculation for a considerable time, to enlarge and beautify the city †. At length, when all fears of a counter-revolution (to use a modern phrase) in favour of the house of Stuart had vanished, and a native prince was seated on the throne, the citizens of Edinburgh, desirous of participating in the benefits arising from the general prosperity of the united nation, thought of extending their boundaries beyond the ancient limits; for which purpose application was made to parliament, and an act passed ‡ empowering the magistrates and town council to enlarge and improve the capital. The Royal Exchange, as already mentioned, was the first specimen of thus beautifying the ancient city of Edinburgh. Soon after, Brown's Square, Argyle's Square, George's Square, Alison's Square, Adam's Square, and part of Nicolson's Street, were built on the south side of the old town.

* Sir William Dick, of Braid, for an account of whom see Grainger's Supplement to the Biographical History of England.

† A plan of the bridge and other improvements of the city was found in a portfolio belonging to the late Earl of Mar. See Edinburgh Magazine, vol. ii. p. 268.

‡ 26 George II. c. 36.

During

During the time when the above-mentioned buildings were erecting, the first stone of the North-bridge was laid, on the 21st of October 1763, by George Drummond Esq. then Lord Provost of Edinburgh; which opened a communication to a *new town* about to be planned, comprehending what is called the *extended royalty*. An act of parliament * for this purpose was obtained, and plans for a *new town* ordered to be given in; which were accordingly lodged in the council-chamber of the city. That designed by the nephew of the celebrated author of the Seasons, Mr. James Craig, architect, was approved; agreeably to which the present new town was built.

The lapse of thirty-three years has made a wonderful change, in every respect for the better, in the appearance of the Scottish capital. The magistrates, still intent on the grand project of enlarging and beautifying their city, recently purchased, with an intention of building on them, the ornamented grounds of the late General Scott's elegant villa of Bellevue; for which purpose plans were ordered to be lodged †; so that, according to the one which shall be approved of, buildings may be erected in a style of elegance suitable to the charming spot thus so happily chosen, and to the taste of the times, now so much improved, since the commencement of that spirit of enterprise,

* 7 George III. c. 27.

† Since writing the above, the author has learned that, although the plans were laid on the table of the council-chamber, those which were exhibited did not please: a circumstance the more extraordinary, as one of the first engineers that Scotland ever bred produced a design, than which for elegant simplicity and real science few superior to it have appeared. The magistrates, however, (and highly to their honour be it mentioned) did not allow the artists to pass unrewarded. A plan, it is said, is recommended to be made, to consist of a *selection from the four* which were thought most worthy of notice!—Feb. 24, 1801.

especially for architecture, throughout the country at large, but more particularly in Edinburgh and its immediate vicinity, toward the close of the eighteenth century.

The second day's excursion may be directed through the new town to the village called "*The Water of Leith*," where the flour mills of Edinburgh are situated; thence following the course of the water, round by *St. Bernard's Well*, and the villages of *Stockbridge* and *Canon Mills*, up by *Broughton*, through *York Place*, to *Queen Street*; and thence by the first street leading off to the left, to the lodgings at which the stranger may chance to live.

From *St. Andrew's Square*, let us enter *George's Street*, and proceed westward. On the left is the *Physician's Hall*, and opposite to it *St. Andrew's church*. The former is built in so chaste, elegant, and simple a style as, on the slightest glance, to arrest the passenger's attention. The latter is so strangely constructed, and is so new in the order of its parts, that, although the workmanship is excellent, yet one is at a loss whether to bestow praise or blame on the architect of so peculiar a structure. The portico and spire are admirable; but what disgraces the latter is a chime of eight bells, sadly out of tune, and wretchedly rung, to the great annoyance of all within hearing, particularly on Sundays when people are on their way to public worship.

A little to the westward of *Hanover Street* are *George's Street Assembly Rooms*, in which balls, concerts, and card parties, are occasionally held. The apartments are fitted up in a style of magnificence characteristic of the advanced state of society in the Scottish capital. The outside of the building, however, is
heavy

heavy and inelegant. It is to the inside that we turn with admiration, particularly when illuminated, its chrystal lustres refracting and reflecting in infinite variety the rays in every direction: and when beauty appears amid this splendour, decked out in all the elegance of taste and fashion, skimming lightly along through the mazes of a minuet, heightened by the rising glow imparted by the graceful movements of the more lively dance; insensible must that heart be which feels not the influence of female charms, while beholding a select party of Scottish ladies on the night of an assembly. On the night of a *Card-party*, the scene is changed. On *Concert-nights* the company is neither so select nor so brilliant as on ball-nights. To explain this latter circumstance is no very difficult task: but for this purpose it is necessary to take a retrospect of the rise, progress, and decline of music in the capital of Scotland, from the latter end of the seventeenth till toward the close of the eighteenth century.

Fortunately, in a paper * published in the first volume of the Transactions of the Society of Antiquarians of Scotland, we are in possession of "a plan of a grand concert of music on St. Cecilia's day 1695," which throws some light on the state of *scientific music* in Scotland toward the end of the seventeenth century.

Although the spirit of the times about the era of the Revolution did not admit of theatrical exhibitions in this part of the country, yet the inhabitants north of the Tweed, ever partial to

* "On the fashionable Amusements and Entertainments in Edinburgh in the last century:" read by W. Tytler of Woodhouselee, Esq. Trans. Antiq. Soc. of Scot. vol. i. p. 499.

“the melody of sweet sounds,” could listen with delight to an entertainment of this nature, in which science and art combined were furnished for the mental feast of rational enjoyment. Hence we find very distinct traces of the *Symphonies* much earlier than the period to which the present inquiry is limited. But, to go no farther back than the time before specified, we shall proceed to notice the progress and decline of unvitiated taste for musical composition, from the first establishment of a weekly concert in Edinburgh, to the final dissolution of the **MUSICAL SOCIETY.**

In the paper already mentioned, (in the notes subjoined to the plan of the concert therein copied from one “given by James Christie Esq. of Newhall to Mr. Tytler’s worthy friend William Douglas of Garwallfoot,” and by him to Mr. T.) the learned author has given some interesting particulars relating to the professional musicians, as well as gentlemen performers of the period alluded to: among others, Adam Craig is particularly noticed, who, says Mr. Tytler, “was reckoned a good orchestra player on the violin, and teacher of music *,” in his dedication “to the honourable Lords and Gentlemen of the Musical Society of Mary’s Chapel,” prefixed to his “Collection of the choicest Scots Tunes” published in the year 1730; which shews that an established concert existed before this period in the capital. Arnot also, in his History of Edinburgh, fixes the precise date of this institution in March 1728; and adds, “before this time, several gentlemen performers on the harpsichord and violin had formed a weekly club at the Cross-

* “I remember him (continues our author) as the second violin to M^rGibbon in the Gentlemen’s concert.” Trans. Ant. Soc. of Scot. vol. i. p. 510.

“ keys tavern : the common entertainment consisted in playing
 “ the concertos and sonatos of Corelli, then just published, and
 “ the overtures of Handel *.”

From the musical meetings occasionally held at Edinburgh in the latter end of the seventeenth and former part of the eighteenth century, originated, as appears from what has been said above, the weekly concert of music, which first met in St. Mary's Chapel, and afterwards in a room erected for the purpose, called *St. Cecilia's Hall* †. This musical association consisted of a limited number, selected from the nobility and gentry of known taste, most of whom could either manage an instrument, or sustain a part in a chorus. From among the members, a governor, deputy governor, treasurer, and five directors, were chosen annually, and in them the whole management was vested. At first the band of this musical society consisted chiefly of gentlemen performers; hence it was denominated “ *The Gentlemen's Concert.*” But, in process of time, either from the want of gentlemen performers, or from a desire to make the entertainment keep pace with the advancement that music had made in England, particularly toward the middle of the eighteenth century, the influence of which had reached the northern capital, professional men invited from abroad, and others, natives of the place, who were taken into the orchestra, filled up the band; till at length it almost wholly consisted of professed musicians.

For some years matters were conducted with great order and propriety, and St. Cecilia's Hall was a place of favourite resort.

* Arnot's History, p. 379. Maitland says 29th March; Hist. of Edin. p. 167.

† Built in the year 1762.

The Oratorios of Handel were occasionally performed with precision and effect. The best compositions of the old school took the lead in the plans of the concerts; which were ably conducted, while a *Pinto* and a *Puppo*, and not unfrequently the earl of Kelly himself, led the band. The celebrated *Tenducci*, too, was often heard in St. Cecilia's Hall; and the greatest instrumental performers, among whom were *Fischer*, *Salomon*, *Jarnowick*, and *Cramer*, often visited the country so famed for its national melodies. A sad reverse, however, has taken place. St. Cecilia's Hall is now deserted. The beauties of the Scottish capital no longer resort thither to hear the strains of Corelli, Jomelli, Pergolesi, Geminiani, Martini of Milan, Leo, Durante, Galuppi, Perez, Bach, Sacchini, Giardini, which captivate and exalt the finer feelings of the soul: the tenderness, delicacy, pathos, power, and elevation which the compositions of these great masters possess, but ill accord with the vitiated taste of the present day. The admirable productions of the German Shakspere of music, so to speak, HAYDN himself, and those of his countryman PLEYEL, are listened to only through the medium of an insatiable relish for the marvellous in execution, in which mere rapidity, noise, and unmeaning sounds bewilder the imagination, distract the attention, and are at variance with measure, melody, modulation, harmony, and every essential requisite of musical expression. Hence that deplorable decline, hastening into total extinction, of a pure and ardent desire for the genuine classics, if the expression may be allowed, of the *scientific art* of music. But this declension in point of taste for the sterling productions of the old school, of those immediately succeeding it, is not of so recent a date as might be imagined.

So

So far back as the year 1777, a well-written paper on this subject made its appearance in the Scots Magazine for April of that year, which contained several remarks on the prevailing taste in music, and pointed particularly at the Musical Society of Edinburgh. An extract or two from this paper will serve to shew, that a corrupt taste for the marvellous in music obtained in the metropolis of the north about four-and-twenty years ago. After describing the three movements of the modern overture, viz. the *Alegro*, the *Andante*, and the *Presto*, in a happy vein of irony, the writer adds, "I have seldom listened to a piece of music without carrying off in my memory a part of the air ; but, at the conclusion of this piece, I found that no part of it had made the smallest impression. We have heard a piece of music (continues he) where, after its conclusion, the delightful idea continued to fill the imagination, the melodious sounds hung upon the ravished ear, and fancy still continued a faint impression when the reality had ceased. When tried by this test of merit, what must we determine of the music at present in esteem *."

In another paragraph of the same paper the learned writer remarks, "Noise, indeed, seems to be a principal aim of the modern composers ; as may be easily imagined, where the design is rather to amaze and surprise than to please. For this it may perhaps be urged, that they have the example of the best of the old masters ; Handel himself having introduced drums and wooden cannon in some of his chorusses. But let it be remembered, that Handel in no instance deviated from propriety. Where he wanted to express the horror and

* Scots Magazine for April 1777.

“ thunder of war, the thunder of his chorus could not be too
 “ tremendous ; when he wished to express the grateful accla-
 “ mation of thousands, and the peal of thanksgiving and praise
 “ to the Almighty, the sublimity of the thing called forth the
 “ highest powers of sound, and the utmost energy of voices and
 “ of instruments. But how different was his style when the
 “ subject required a softness and tenderness of expression ?
 “ There he shewed how much he possessed that real feeling of
 “ the sentiment which is essential to the character of a com-
 “ poser. It is not enough to possess the most profound know-
 “ ledge of music, to be acquainted with all the powers of
 “ harmony, and the mechanism of counterpoint : unless the
 “ composer is at once a man of sense and exquisite feeling, his
 “ works, however they may amuse the trifling soul of a modern
 “ *Dilettante*, will soon sink into that eternal oblivion which
 “ they justly merit.”

It is sufficiently manifest, from the judicious remarks contained in these extracts, that the decline of true taste for musical compositions had taken place a considerable time since in this part of our island. The writer next proceeds to develop the causes of this corrupt taste in music, which he attributes chiefly “to the perfection to which instrumental music is of late arrived ;” and the “other source of corruption,” he apprehends, “is a contagious disease with which people of fashion are now-a-days affected ; a pretension to *taste* in all the arts. Every well-bred gentleman is a connoisseur in painting, a *Dilettante* in music, and a profound critic in poetry.”

But beside these causes of the want of a refined taste for musical composition north of the Tweed, others might be assigned,

signed, did the limits of so general a work as the present admit of enumerating them. To say nothing of the want of music in our churches, and consequent indifference about choral and symphonic music; and the want (no small one) of a proper band at the theatre; many subordinate causes might be specified, to account for the low state into which the public taste for music has fallen in the capital of North Britain; but the farther consideration of the subject must be deferred till another opportunity.

The first of the female singers engaged by the directors of St. Cecilia's-hall was the wife of Signor Dominico Corri, the same whom Doctor Burney mentions to have seen at Rome in his musical tour. This lady had been bred a miniature painter; but the rich mellowness, compass, and flexibility of her voice, together with a chaste and correct manner of displaying her vocal powers, demonstrated the propriety of cultivating such rare gifts. Accordingly, on her arrival in Scotland with her husband, about the year 1773 or 1774, she assiduously devoted herself to music; and, amid the cares of an infant family, seldom or never failed to give high satisfaction on the nights of the weekly concerts. Her husband, as a musician, had his talents been properly directed, would have appeared respectable. But he was a projector. He attempted a Vauxhall—a Vauxhall at Edinburgh! The management of the theatre was his next aim: it would not do. He taught ladies to sing: that did better. He next became a music-seller: to supply his shop with the offsprings of his imagination was too profitable a concern to make him over-nice in the execution. His two brothers John and Natali had been settled for some time as teachers of music

in Edinburgh. They carried every thing before them ; to be a pupil of the Corri's was enough. Whither had true taste fled by this time ? It had taken its final leave of St. Cecilia's hall when Signor Puppo departed from Edinburgh.

The place of first violin player at the weekly concert becoming vacant by Puppo's withdrawing himself, the directors, hearing of the celebrity of a very promising performer on that instrument at Rome, resolved to invite him to lead their orchestra ; and, having engaged him for this purpose, he arrived at Edinburgh in the year 1783. Every one was eager to hear the successor of Puppo, whose solo-playing, particularly in adagio, few were ever heard to equal. Signor Stabilini, the person alluded to, made his first essay in so masterly a style as to gain him unqualified approbation. It was predicted, however, that, as in all probability he would have little opportunity of hearing better performers than himself, his ambition would languish ; and that, consequently, he would scarcely advance beyond the limits to which his talents had already arrived. How far this prediction has been verified, those who have been in the habit of hearing him play for these seventeen years will be best able to determine. Signor Stabilini is still a great performer ; witness the manner in which he executes his own compositions, particularly that admirable production in which he introduces the favourite air of "*Sandie o'er the lee*." What brilliancy ! what pathos ! what expression ! Oh, exquisite ! exquisite !—Of this enough, perhaps more than sufficient. But, before we close this part of our observations, it may be necessary to mention, that the Musical Society, which had directed the taste of Edinburgh for the greater part of a century, no longer exists ; the
strongest

strongest and most unequivocal proof of the rapid decline of taste for genuine music in this section of our island. In its stead, however, a professional concert is occasionally held in George's Street Assembly Rooms, under the direction of Mr. N. Corri. Till last winter, when it wore a more cheering aspect, it had proved a speculation but of little profit. Master PINTO, the grandson of the celebrated PINTO, whom Doctor Burney mentions in his "General History of Music," is engaged at this concert. What the Doctor says of the grandfather is so applicable to his wonderful grandson, that to transcribe it in this place requires no apology. "This excellent performer (meaning the elder Pinto) was a miraculous player on his instrument (the violin) when a boy; and, long before manhood came on, was employed as a leader of large bands and concerts. With a very powerful hand, and a marvellous quick eye, he was in general so careless a player that he performed the most difficult music that could be set before him better the *first* time he saw it, than ever after. He was then obliged to look at the notes with some care and attention; but afterwards, trusting to his memory, he frequently committed mistakes, and missed the expression of passages, which, if he had thought worth looking at, he would have executed with certainty *". Young Pinto is not only an admirable violin player, but also a first-rate performer on the grand piano forte: to excel on instruments so widely different from each other, is a proof of genius and unwearied application very seldom to be met with. If dissipation, and consequent idleness, do not impede him in his career, what may not the musical world expect

* Burney's General History of Music, vol. iv. p. 468.

in his riper manhood, when his talents shall have received from practice, mature judgment, and refined taste, the highest polish possible to conceive?

It may be mentioned as among the remarkable occurrences in Edinburgh at the close of the eighteenth century, that, after the British and Russian armies evacuated Holland in 1799, several of the Russian ships of war lying for some months at anchor in Leith roads with troops on board, the bands belonging to them performed in the Assembly Rooms George's Square, for the benefit of the public kitchen. The concourse of people who came to hear the Russians sing their native airs was in proportion to the novelty of this unlooked-for gratification; and it is certain, all had reason to be highly pleased. The Russian musicians performed only a few of their national airs; but they sung trios, quartets, and chorusses, in so masterly a style as to surprise every one that heard them.

In proceeding westward through George's Street, where it opens into Charlotte Square, on looking back we command a fine range of street perspective. The uniformity of the straight line is happily varied by the transverse sections of the streets that on either side branch off at right angles, and join Queen Street on the north and Prince's Street on the south, which run parallel the whole length of the New Town. The spire of St. Andrew's church is seen far in the distance; and the opening into St. Andrew's Square, in a recess on the north east side of which, with appropriate side-wings, is the elegant mansion of the late Sir Lawrence Dundas, terminates this prospect, than which, when properly illumined in sun-shine, for uniformity
pleasing

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View on the Water of Leth.

Engraved by J. Macdonald del. 1845. for the Edinburgh and Glasgow Steam Navigation Co.

pleasing and attractive, cleanliness, neatness, appearance of comfort, and populousness without bustle, hurry, or confusion, hardly such another is any where to be met with.

Charlotte's Square promises, when finished, to be one of the handsomest imaginable. Its situation is truly charming. Keeping the earl of Murray's mansion on the right, we strike off in that direction to the mills of Edinburgh, called *The Water of Leith*. The situation of this village is peculiarly delightful: its houses are mean and uncomfortable; yet, to the lover of picturesque beauty, this will not appear an objection. In the neighbourhood of the Water of Leith, then, he may find ample gratification; the views affording many subjects for the pencil, either in detail, or on a grand scale, where freedom of design may be exercised. One or two of the scenes shall be pointed out.

On the height, immediately before descending to the Water of Leith, a scene replete with such objects as characterize the lovely landscapes of Claude Lorraine presents itself. Through the deep dell, sweeping rapidly along the bottom among fragments of rocks, the windings of the Water appear clear, ample, and reflective: on either side, its banks, rising with a graceful inclination, well wooded, give the leading outline of view. On the right bank, projecting over the stream in the middle distance, the temple of St. Bernard's well, an elegant structure, the chief ornament of this delightful valley, appears with peculiar effect. On the left bank, half hid among trees, the tower of Dean-haugh, built in imitation of a Gothic turret, forms a happy contrast to the Grecian fane. Stock-bridge, and the house of our Scottish Reynolds, Mr. Rhæburn, are seen immediately behind the temple.

temple. The villas of Inverleith, Wariston, and a number of others, together with many snug boxes resorted to in the summer months as sea-bathing quarters by the inhabitants of the city, amid gardens, corn-fields, hedge-rows, and inclosures, occupy the farther distance to the sea-shore. Inchkeith, behind which the double summit of Largo-law is seen softened in aerial tints, composes an interesting feature in the picture, and agreeably varies the uniformity of the lengthened horizontal line formed by the Fifeshire coast stretching from west to east along the Frith of Forth. On the whole, the scene before us is such as to require little, if any, aid from art to transfer its beauties from nature to the canvass.

Before entering into the lower regions of this delightful valley, along the course of its stream to the temple of Hygeia, seen from the headlong steep over which we bend in contemplating the prospect above described, we may take a circuit round by *Bell's Mills*, crossing the water by the bridge, at which a peep on either hand is commanded of the rural charms of this peculiarly situated village. A little beyond the bridge, near the summit of the rising on the north bank of the river, Edinburgh, its castle, and its accompaniments of water, wood, and craggy wilds, come into view in so picturesque a form as to rivet the attention and charm the imagination. It was nearly from this spot, that our Scottish Claude, Nasmyth, composed one of his principal pictures of Edinburgh.

Having proceeded in this direction to Bell's-mills, we may either pursue our way to where the Queen's ferry road joins the old road by the Water of Leith, and turn to the right down to that village, through which we pass to St. Bernard's well; or,

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v. 1, p. 102



F. John Smith

Sketch of the Spot by Alex. Campbell

(Edinburgh from the West)

London: Published March 1, 1845, by Messrs. Longman & Co., Stationers' Hall.

by tracing up the course of the water to Colt-bridge, thence return by the way which turns off to the right, till we fall into that which joins the road to Queen's-ferry, straight on to the Water of Leith ; by which means we shall be amply gratified with the variety, beauty, and extent of prospect to be met with in this excursion on the north side of the city. In either case, then, it is necessary to pass through the Water of Leith, in doing of which we have an opportunity of observing the wretched state of building, and of crowding houses together, that till within the last forty years was universally prevalent in this part of the country.

Immediately on recrossing the river, a little beyond the end of the Water of Leith bridge, we strike down a narrow passage which opens into the way by the side of the river to St. Bernard's well. The noise of the mills and of the water rushing in a sheet of ample breadth over the dam-head, is in fine contrast with the scene which opens suddenly with all its rural wildness, where we hardly expect to meet any thing but a continuation of huge irregular buildings. Above are hanging rocks, among which, brambles, wild roses, and ivy are seen thickly matted, yet scarcely concealing the bare branching roots of the trees bending gracefully over the shelving precipice, rising almost perpendicularly above the mill-lead sweeping along its base : the river too, brawling over its rocky bed, hurries onward beneath our feet. The road, which is a considerable height above the bed of the river, is formed principally of a wall of vast thickness : the side path is in great want of a railing or parapet ; indeed, the whole of this way is shamefully neglected.

After passing another set of flour-mills, we soon reach the temple under which the celebrated mineral springs of St. Bernard are collected and preserved, for the benefit of such valedudinarians as resort thither during the spring and summer months. St. Bernard, the tutelary saint of this hallowed fountain, having lost his reputation in the healing art, the salutary stream was in consequence very much neglected, till, the late Lord Gardenstone having, as he believed, experienced good effects from the supposed medicinal virtues of this Spa, caused a temple to be erected over the principal spring after a plan of Mr. Alexander Nasmyth of Edinburgh. Elegant as this specimen of that artist's genius may be considered, yet, had the design been accurately followed *, as originally intended, much more taste would have appeared in the arrangement of objects ; which must have added greatly to the picturesque charms of the surrounding scenery. On the whole, however, the pleasure one feels on visiting this sweetly sequestered vale can hardly admit of an idea which is not in harmony with that disposition of mind which the rural beauties of the scene are calculated to awaken.

On the opposite bank are the house and pleasure grounds of Mr. Rheaburn : they were formerly the property of the late Mr. Walter Ross, a gentleman of much taste and suavity of manners, whose memory is cherished by all who knew him,

* We here allude to a deviation from Mr. Nasmyth's intended base, or rock work, on which the temple is erected. Great masses of free-stone rock were to have been piled, with ivy creeping over them ; which would have afforded a characteristic groundwork, well suited to the chaste simplicity of the structure ; but Lord Gardenstone's ill state of health was a great hindrance to the undertaking, otherwise more attention would have been paid to the original design.

and know how to estimate probity, honour, and rare accomplishments, of which Mr. Ross possessed an eminent share indeed. The delight which he took in works of art and antiquities, led him to collect some curious fragments * of old buildings about Edinburgh, some of which he has preserved by fixing them in and about the tower, under which his remains lie buried. In the middle of the field on which this turret is built, a huge block of free stone stands erect: it is partly cut out in the form of a human figure, and, if report speaks truly, it was intended by the then magistrates of Edinburgh to form the effigies of *Oliver Cromwell*: but the Restoration put an end to the design; and the fine equestrian statue of Charles II. to be seen in the Parliament Square, was, by the *prudent* magistrates, ordered in its stead. In consequence, the above shapeless mass lay upwards of a century and a half neglected and unknown, till Mr. Ross, having obtained possession of this precious piece of antiquity, placed it upright with its face fronting the city; in which position it remains, a *standing joke* against the unsteady loyalty of the times.

Leaving the narrow vale through which the river Leith winds its course, instead of passing through the turnpike, and ascending to the new town by the road thence from Stockbridge, we hold straight on, through the village of Canon Mills, up by Broughton; and, striking off to the right, enter York Place, which is in the same line with Queen Street, and so end our second day's excursion.

* Among other curiosities are four heads in *alto relievo*, which formerly were placed over the arches of the Cross of Edinburgh; also the baptismal font belonging to St. Ninian's Chapel, which stood near the Register Office.

On the road from Stockbridge to Canon Mills, on the right is the distillery belonging to Stien and Co. In 1784, when the price of corn was high, the populace of Edinburgh, having heard it rumoured that vast quantities of grain of all descriptions were here converted into ardent spirits, which they conceived to be highly injurious, came down in a body in order to lay this sink of the *staff of life* in ashes. Apprized of their intention, the servants belonging to the distillery armed in defence of their master's property, and made a stout resistance: having fired on the multitude, one dropped dead on the spot, and several were wounded. Immediately after the military appeared, and the mob dispersed. Similar outrages were committed in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh much about the same time: so unpopular were the distilleries at that period in this part of the country. Now, that they have ceased working ever since the present scarcity commenced, the people grumble, and wish ardently for whisky*. At this time malt-whisky is at a more exorbitant price than was ever before heard of: thirteen shillings per gallon (English) is no uncommon charge for it; nay, even for this high price it is scarcely to be obtained. Three years ago, the same quantity could be purchased for less than one third of the money; at which time honest folks could quietly and comfortably get drunk, without much injury to such as had domestic concerns to mind. Sobriety, even among the female sex, is hardly a virtue now-a-days.

Canon Mills is a mean, dirty village, inhabited mostly by millers, washerwomen, and servants belonging to the distillery. This village is of considerable antiquity. In the charter of

* Aqua vitæ, Water of life.

foundation of the Abbey of Holyroodhouse, among other endowments of that monastery, the privilege of erecting mills on the Water of Leith was none of the least important. Of the mills that were built in right of this grant, those of *Dean* (i. e. Water of Leith), above noticed, and of *Canon Mills* *, became the most profitable. At the Reformation, Canon Mills (being on the lands of the barony of Broughton) were vested in the earl of Roxburgh; and in 1636 the earl disposed of this part of his newly acquired property to the city of Edinburgh, and it has ever since remained in the possession of the town council †.

Passing round by Canon Mills' loch, we leave the village by turning off to the right towards town, through the turnpike near *Bellevue* (formerly called *Drummond Lodge* ‡) by *Broughton*, and soon after strike off to the right, and enter York Place. But, should the stranger feel little or no fatigue, he may either prolong his excursion from Canon Mills by a cross-road leading thence to *Bonnington*, *Newhaven*, and *Leith*; after visiting of which, he can come round by Leith Walk, and pass over to York Place, Queen Street, or any part of the New Town he pleases: or, he may defer this part of the *northern circuit*, so to speak, till the afternoon, whichever may be found most agreeable and convenient.

Instead, then, of turning off to the right at Canon Mills, thence to the city, we hold a little to the left, by a cross road

* A. D. 1128. Holyroodhouse belonged to Canons Regular of St. Augustine: hence these mills derived their name.

† Arnot's Hist. p. 253. Maitland's Hist. p. 148, where the charter of confirmation, dated in 1639, is to be seen.

‡ The house of the late George Drummond, Esq. Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

which

which joins that leading to Bonnington, Newhaven, and Leith, At the small village of Bonnington, to which we strike off, on passing through the turnpike to the left, we meet with another set of flour-mills belonging to Edinburgh. The situation of this village is in every respect rural. At present there is a wooden bridge; but it is expected that a stone bridge, conformable to the advanced state of improvement in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, and the importance of so necessary a public good, will ere long be erected.

From Bonnington to Newhaven is a short half mile. Instead of turning to either hand, we hold straight onward, and soon reach *Newhaven*; a place of favourite resort, to which the citizens of Edinburgh are attracted by its celebrity for *muscle-brofe* and *caller oysters*:

“ At *Musselb’rough*, an’ eke *Newhaven*,
The fisher-wives will get *top livin*,
Whan *lads* gang out on Sunday’s even
To treat their *Joes*,
An’ tak o’ fat panders a prieveen,
Or *mussel-brofe*.”

FERGUSSON.

Newhaven (so called to distinguish it from the *haven* of *Inverleith*, now known by the appellation *Leith*, the port of Edinburgh) is a pretty considerable village, consisting of mean houses, crowded together amidst dirt and nastiness *, inhabited by fishermen, pilots, and their families. James IV. the only one of our Scottish princes who paid any regard to the navy of this section of the island, caused a harbour and dock-yard to

* On the eminences immediately above Newhaven, and along the sea-beach toward Leith, several good and substantial houses have lately been erected, for sea-bathing.

be erected near this spot, as having a sufficient depth of water, and being more convenient in every respect than the old haven of *Inverleith*: hence the name *Newhaven*. At that time a chapel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. James, in which the inhabitants (shipwrights, mariners, and fishers chiefly) were to assemble to worship, was also built, and an officiating priest appointed. This haven was then called *Our Lady's Port of Grace*. In the year 1508 the chapel, which stood at the west end of the village, was left at the king's (James IV.) disposal *; and in 1510 the port (with all its rights and privileges) was conveyed by the grant of James V. to the city of Edinburgh. The sea having made great encroachments on this side of the Frith, Newhaven has been entirely demolished by that devouring element. The whole way between Leith and Newhaven exhibits a rapid decomposition of the soil to an alarming degree; no time, therefore, ought to be lost in rearing strong and substantial dykes, so as to secure what yet remains untouched.

Half way between Leith and Newhaven is the lately constructed battery: a little further on is the *Citadel* of Leith, first erected when Mary of Lorraine caused this port to be garrisoned by French troops, and afterwards re-built by the Covenanters in the reign of Charles I. Oliver Cromwell, too, ordered a new fort to be raised, the gate of which still remains: but on the Restoration, Cromwell's fortifications were levelled with the ground †.

* Maitland's Hist. of Edin. See also Arnot's Hist.

† At the Reformation, the profits of St. James's Chapel, as it was called, were given to the minister of St. Cuthbert's; now they belong to the incumbent of North Leith parish. Maitland's Hist. of Edin.

After

After passing *Cromwell's Mount*, a pleasant knoll that rises immediately behind the citadel, we once more meet with Leith river. Here we behold it covered with a forest collected from the four quarters of the globe; in other words, the shipping of Leith harbour. We pass from North to South Leith by the draw-bridge which was erected a few years ago *, and proceed along the quay to the extremity of the pier, where the lighthouse stands. Here we command an extensive prospect in every direction.

As Wapping is an appendage to London, so Leith is literally to be considered as such to Edinburgh. Its origin, like that of all sea-port towns, is involved in obscurity. In the charter of foundation of the Abbey of Holyroodhouse, in 1128, it is first mentioned, by the name of *Inverleith*. In the year 1398 this port was thought of sufficient importance for the magistrates of Edinburgh to purchase the rights and privileges belonging to it, they having previously obtained a royal grant of its harbour and mills. But, notwithstanding that Edinburgh considered Leith as a mere appendage to that ancient burgh, now rising into consequence, many of the inhabitants of the latter, from the local advantages and favourable opportunities which their situation afforded, were led to speculate in such a way as eventually to awaken the jealousy of their superiors of the neighbouring city. The spirit of monopoly, faithful to its narrow views, marked

* A stone bridge of three arches, of considerable antiquity, was removed about the time the present draw-bridge was constructed. At the north end of the old bridge the Chapel of St. Ninian's stood, on the site on which the parish church of North Leith now stands. The clergyman of this living is appointed by the heads of families belonging to the parish; a rare circumstance in the established church of Scotland, since patronage obtained universally in the reign of Queen Anne.

with

with an invidious glance the increasing riches of the Leith merchants. In 1485 an act of Town-Council betrayed this execrable ardour of exclusive gain most completely ; as by it any commercial connection whatever between the citizens of Edinburgh and the inhabitants of Leith was strictly prohibited under pecuniary penalty, besides deprivation of the freedom of the city for a time limited. In the year 1544 the English troops commanded by the earl of Hertford sacked Leith, and laid it in ashes *. In 1549, the French army, sent into Scotland to assist the Queen Regent in quelling the rebellion of that period, raised fortifications around this town. Thus fortified, an accession to its inhabitants soon after took place ; and in 1555 Mary of Lorraine erected it into a burgh of barony, and chose it as a place of security to reside in. But this independence was of short duration. The inhabitants, it should seem, were destined to be humble dependents on the Town-Council of Edinburgh ; for, on the death of the Queen Regent, Leith was once more purchased by the community of Edinburgh. In 1560, the Lords of the Congregation, with the assistance of the auxiliaries sent them by Elizabeth of England, laid siege to this burgh, which, but for a cessation of arms, would have experienced the horrors of being taken by storm ; in consequence, the English withdrew homeward, and soon after the French evacuated the country †. Leith, however, as to its independence, profited but little by this happy deliverance. Edinburgh still retained it within its grasp, and at this day it is tributary to that city.

* Maitland's Hist. of Edin. p. 486.

† Robertson's Hist. of Scot. vol. i. p. 202. 4to edit. 1759.

It has already been remarked, that during the civil wars this port was successively fortified, and its walls and bastions levelled with the ground. In the rebellion of 1715, Brigadier M'Intosh seized on the town, and fortified the citadel. The duke of Argyle made a vain attempt to dislodge the rebels: but the rebellion languished and eventually ceased. During the interval of peace, Leith pursued its traffic and extended its commerce. The civil commotions of the year 1745, however, gave a temporary check to its spirit of enterprize; and it again experienced a shock when America threw off its connection with the mother country. At this latter period, a whimsical circumstance gave the inhabitants some cause of alarm. The celebrated *Paul Jones*, with three armed ships under his command, made his appearance in the Frith of Forth: it proved a mere peep behind the curtain. Paul sheered off, and the inhabitants leaped for joy. Soon after, a battery to protect the harbour was erected; and ever since Leith has remained in perfect security. Its trade and commerce are so blended with those of Edinburgh, that, in all respects, it is considered the port of that city, to which it is now nearly joined by houses on either side of the road; and very soon the distinction between Leith and the metropolis will not exist. Its new quay, enlarged harbour, dock-yards and roperies; its glass-houses, and various other departments of industry; its churches, and its public and private buildings, will, in a short space of time, be no longer separated from the great city, so fast crowding towards the port at which the imports and exports of the great emporia of the habitable globe arrive and depart*.

Some

* The average value of the exports and imports at Leith the author has not been able to ascertain. The Berwick smack speculation has greatly increased the trade of late

Some years ago the harbour of Leith was enlarged ; but, the trade daily augmenting, it became necessary to make farther improvements. Accordingly, an act of parliament was lately obtained ; in consequence of which, a new harbour for the reception of a greater number of shipping has been begun, and is in great forwardness. Many good judges are of opinion that the situation for a new harbour might have been better chosen. The *Black Rocks*, it is said, would have answered remarkably well ; as on so firm a foundation, quays, on which storehouses might be built, could at a far less expence have been erected, more durable, convenient, and safe than the present works. Besides, the depth of water so far from the shore is much greater ; nor is it so liable to be banked with sand. Moreover, instead of purchasing property at a dear rate to make room for the new harbour, so much land would have been gained from the sea ; by which means a vast acquisition would have been made for the purposes of enlarging and beautifying the port of Edinburgh, particularly to the eastward as far as the turnpike on the road to Musselburgh, which from the Black Rocks to the beach, and from the present pier to the turnpike, comprehends an area of a square mile. On this area Leith races are usually held.

The dwelling-houses in Leith are crowded together, and are mean and uncomfortable : the lanes are dirty, and the streets narrow. In the out-skirts of the town, however, several houses have been lately built in a style of elegance highly charac-

late years ; and, besides, West Indiamen have been fitted out, a thing unknown at this port till within these sixteen years.

teristic of the increasing wealth of the inhabitants engaged in mercantile speculations.

Some of the more ancient buildings still remain ; such as the town-house (in which are comprehended the prison and guard-house), built in the year 1565 ; King James's Hospital, in the Kirkgate, founded in 1614 ; and Trinity or Mariners' Hospital, in the same street, the inscription on the front of which is A.D. 1555.

Nearly opposite to Trinity Hospital is the chapel of St. Mary, now the parish church of South Leith, a beautiful structure. Logan, the poet and historian, was one of the officiating clergymen of this church before he renounced the sacerdotal profession for the more uncertain and less profitable pursuits of literature. He afterwards emigrated to London, where he experienced much pecuniary hardship, unkindness, and neglect, and sunk into an untimely grave at the age of forty*.

To the eastward, adjoining South Leith church-yard, is situated an extensive piece of ground, called *Leith Links* ; so uneven, broken, and rugged, as to be hardly fit for any other purpose than for *golf*, a game almost peculiar to Scotland, to which it is admirably adapted :

“ North from *Edina* eight furlongs and more
Lies that fam'd field, on *Forth's* sounding shore ;
Where *Caledonian* chiefs for health resort,
Confirm their sinews by the manly sport.”—*Goff's Poem* †.

* After a lingering illness, he died in London on the 28th of December 1788.

† First printed at Edinburgh 1743 ; reprinted at the same place in 1793, for Peter Hill, at the Cross. For some interesting particulars respecting *Golf*, see Stat. Acc. vol. xvi. article *Amusements*.

We leave Leith, and proceed up Leith-walk to York-place, already mentioned. The Walk of Leith is said to have been made by order of James VI. It is scarcely above twenty years since the coach-road to Leith from Edinburgh was made passable. Subsequent to that time, most of the houses on either side have been built; behind which, the fields have been converted into gardens and nurseries. Within the last three years the whole way from Edinburgh to Leith has been lighted by night, an improvement of the first consequence.

On the right hand as we come from Leith, the *Botanic-garden* attracts notice by its high walls, over which willow trees of considerable growth spread their branches. A visit to this garden is well worth making. In it are to be found most of the indigenous plants of this island, besides an infinite number and variety of exotics from the remotest regions of the earth, all arranged systematically, according to the classification of LINNEUS; to whom the late Professor of Botany in the University of Edinburgh, John Hope, M. D., erected a monument in a sequestered spot surrounded with trees in the garden*.

At the head of Leith-walk we strike off, where a row of houses called *Picardy* lately stood, to York Place. On entering this place, we leave a huge unshapely mass of building called *The Circus* on the left. This house serves the double purpose of a temple for holy office on the first day of the week, and, during the season of lent, profane exhibitions of horsemanship, tight-rope-dancing, tumbling, and pantomime, on the night of every *lawful day* throughout the week.

* This monument is in form of a Roman urn, supported on a pedestal; it is plain and simple, yet elegant: on it is inscribed, "*Linneo posuit Jo. Hope.*"

In the pious time of Cromwell's usurpation, it was no unusual sight to behold military gentlemen,

" When gospel-trumpeter, surrounded
With long-ear'd rout, to battle founded,
And pulpit, drum ecclesiastick,
Was beat with fist, instead of a stick,"

ascend the sacred rostrum and harangue the fanatics of the day : but there is no mention made of their ever having appeared in any character on the stage ; this was left for a more advanced period of refinement. A representation of one of the most holy of the Christian mysteries takes place on the boards of the Circus on a Sunday ; a circumstance so novel as to be without a parallel in the history of the Christian church, and a manifest proof that the present age is any thing but the age of infidelity *. Near the westward of York-place another place of worship strikes the eye, but with more pleasing sensations than accompanied the former. This is *St. George's-chapel*, a beautiful specimen of the *modern style* of Gothic architecture. Though small, this elegant building is constructed in so chaste, simple, and appropriate a manner, as to afford a model of beauty rarely to be seen. This is one of the chapels in which divine service is performed agreeable to the English liturgy. There are two more chapels of this description ; one at the west end of the new town, and the other in the old town of Edinburgh. These places of worship resemble the chapels of the community of the Scottish Episcopal church in form only, though with this essential difference, that of having no Bishop to whom the officiating clergy

* Almost close to the walls of the *Circus*, a large meeting-house was lately erected : nay, opposite to it, at the head of Leith-walk, another place of worship is building.

are accountable: of consequence, they and their congregations belong neither to the Church of England nor to the Episcopal community of Scotland. Are they, then, to be considered as schismatics? To look on them in this point of view were harsh, and unlike the meek spirit of Christian charity. And yet,—but, in order to place this matter in a clearer light, it may not be deemed uninteresting to exhibit in this place a slight sketch of the ecclesiastical history of Scotland, so far as it regards the Episcopal church, from its first establishment after the Reformation, to the present time: from which it will appear, that an union between all the congregations of the Episcopal persuasion north of the Tweed, is not only a desideratum of the first importance, but also a wise, prudent, and even necessary measure at this critical juncture; when all denominations of Christians, but especially those whose forms of worship are similar, ought, as it is their bounden duty, to draw the bonds of brotherly love closer and closer, so as to bear up against the powerful tide of infidelity, so manifest, and so characteristic of the age in which we live.

The Ecclesiastical history of Scotland, is involved in that chaos of error and perplexity which marks the first ages in which Christianity is said to have spread its influence to the remoter parts of this island. At what period the gospel obtained belief north of the Friths of Forth and Clyde is equally uncertain. These points are not so properly the object of our present enquiry, as to bring in review the regular continuation of Episcopal church government in Scotland, through all the vicissitudes of the reformation, revolution, and accession of the house of Hanover, down to the final exclusion of the abjured family,

family, and the extinction of all reasonable hope of a restoration favourable to an uninterrupted succession of our ancient race of kings.

The careless gaiety, ease, and voluptuousness of the court of Rome during the pontificate of the learned and accomplished LEO X. were the forerunners of a great change about to take place in the minds of men; as much unlooked for, as its effects on the sentiments, habits, and manners of the people were, by the church, in its then corrupted state, to be dreaded. Early in the sixteenth century, while the influence of literature was spreading in every direction, the unlimited sway, in things civil as well as ecclesiastical, which the clergy of every order exerted, without controul or regard to decency itself, even in domestic concerns, left hardly a glimpse of hope that a reformation in private life, far less in ecclesiastical affairs, could ever be accomplished, otherwise than by the miraculous interposition of Heaven itself.

It is well known, that the sale of absolutions, dispensations, and indulgences, in the pontificate of *John de Medicis*, in order to recruit the exhausted resources of the apostolic revenue of Rome, led, though indirectly, to the great work of the reformation. The unequal distribution of these indulgences seemed the ostensible cause of precipitating the downfall of Romish superstition; and, *Martin Luther*, an Augustine monk of Wurtemberg in Saxony, by unwearied diligence, address, and courage, and protected by the arm of power, successively opposed this scandalous system, the centre of which was the Vatican itself. Meanwhile, the business of the reformation was going on. In *Germany* it found many favourers: in England, the Pope's authority was not only called in question, but even the *Defender of the Faith*;

our

our eighth Henry, had disclaimed all connection with the court of Rome. His nephew too, *James V.* of Scotland, though then a mere stripling, having acquired reformed principles, through the tuition and converse of Sir David Lindsay of the Mount, George Buchanan, and other reformers, rather encouraged than discountenanced the doctrines newly imported from the continent respecting such abstract speculations as at that period obtained; little aware that political sentiments were involved in what seemed better calculated to amend the heart, and correct the judgment.

Cardinal Beaton, archbishop of St. Andrew's, a man of deep penetration and unbounded ambition, foreseeing the consequences of religious innovation, opposed the new doctrines in every shape whatever, and persecuted even to death the propagators of such visionary and novel ideas as appeared in the literary productions of the first reformers, some of whom had already been brought to the stake.

The first that suffered in the Protestant cause north of the Tweed was *Patrick Hamilton*, abbot of Ferne in Ross-shire. This person imbibed at home a tincture of the new opinions, and afterwards while in Germany met with the chiefs of the reformation, *Luther* and *Melancthon*; when, the great and immutable truths of what formed the basis of true religion taking deep root in his mind, he openly avowed his conviction: and being brought to trial, and convicted, he was burnt before the gate of St. Salvator's college in the city of St. Andrews, on the 1st of March 1527 *. After this tragical event, many

* See Keith's Hist. of the church of Scot. p. 7, 8.; Drummond's Hist. of James VI., and Skinner's Eccl. Hist. of Scot. vol. i. p. 432, 433.

others suffered in the cause of the reformation. But the arm of power was unable to arrest its progress: its advance was slow, yet sure, as afterwards appeared, while its enemies in dismay fled before its formidable approaches.

The death of James V., the murder of Cardinal Beaton, and the regencies of Arran and of Mary of Guise, were events and circumstances which affected the cause of the reformation more or less, but in no wise impeded its steady and important movements. The papal throne in Scotland had been nearly subverted; and while, in England, Mary the daughter of Henry pursued with fire and faggot the pious martyrs of the reformed religion, Mary of Guise, ambitious to advance her new projects, deemed it profound policy to countenance some of the zealous leaders of the Protestant cause*. Thus the reformation continued its progress under the temporary sanction of authority, while the established superstition trembled to its centre. The Queen Regent, however, did not perceive her error till too late. The association called the CONGREGATION, whose aim was to overthrow popery, and in its stead to establish the reformation on the firm basis of civil and religious liberty, became powerful by numbers, and by the justness of their cause ultimately succeeded.

The death of Mary of Guise and the return of Mary Queen of Scots were events that seem but inconsiderably to have affected the reformation of religion. *John Knox*, the leading champion of the fanatic party, with a zeal characteristic of a daring ungovernable spirit, by inflammatory harangues incited the people to pull down altars, and demolish the temples of

* Robertson's Hist. of Scot. book ii.

superstitious worship. The religious houses were demolished, and their inhabitants scattered in every direction. The dignified ecclesiastics trembled in secret; while the sovereign of the nation looked on with dismay. Perplexed by difficulties daily accumulating, imposed on by designing courtiers, and blind to the true interests of herself and people, she sunk into contempt, and was imprisoned by her own subjects: having, however, effected her escape, she fell into the hands of her enemies; and, after eighteen years' captivity in a country which ought to have afforded her protection, was ignominiously led to the scaffold, thus ending her unparalleled sufferings. Meanwhile, during the minority of the only son of this unfortunate princess, the Reformation was rapidly advancing. James the Sixth, in the midst of tumults and cabal, established an episcopacy in Scotland remarkable for its moderation and conciliatory spirit. But after the accession of James to the English throne, being at a distance from his native dominions, his influence, although ever vigilant in support of episcopacy, was insufficient to prevent the presbyterian cause from gaining strength daily: yet, as the ecclesiastical interests of the former were closely interwoven with the rights and privileges of the crown, the latter had to struggle with difficulties not easily to be surmounted. In the year 1617, after an absence of thirteen years, James determined on a visit to the capital of Scotland, and, having arrived at the palace of Holyroodhouse, all eagerly flocked thither to hail their native prince. A parliament was summoned to meet the king on the 13th of June (1617). In it, ecclesiastical affairs were agitated with less temper and unanimity than the first of our British monarchs conceived to be

consistent with the dignity of an imperial crown. The presbyters urged the propriety of sharing in the ecclesiastical legislation, which, for the sake of peace and unanimity, in times of extreme peril was necessary. The dignified clergy were not averse to the measures proposed; and the king, naturally inclined to justice and forbearance, yielded. Thus the established clergy being put under proper regulations, matters for a time went on pretty quietly. In the meanwhile, James "*the peaceful and the just*," after a reign of thirty-eight years, "slept with his fathers;" and in 1625, Charles, his only surviving son, was, with the usual solemnities, proclaimed King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. During the reign of this unfortunate prince, the episcopal government experienced in both sections of the island a total overthrow. It is well known, that an attempt to introduce into Scotland the English Liturgy was repelled by the populace with indignation and fury. Hitherto, as no authorised form of common prayer was in use, the officiating clergy had been left to the freedom of their own mode of addressing the Deity*, in which the people joined with due reverence and warmth of affection: consequently, a deviation from their accustomed manner of devotion shocked them extremely. The crafty and malevolent among the adverse party knew how to avail themselves of this circumstance; and it is needless to add how successful their machinations proved. On the martyrdom of Charles I. episcopacy was abolished; on the restoration of his son Charles II. it was restored; and on the abdication of his brother James VII. the Scottish bishops but too fully anticipated the sad reverse which the temporal as well as

* Skinner's Eccl. Hist. of Scot. vol. ii. p. 283.

spiritual welfare of the church was about to feel. On the accession of the nephew and daughter of the exiled monarch, William prince of Orange and his wife Mary, to the English throne, the first object of the deep, reserved, and crafty Dutchman was, to ascertain in what degree of popularity episcopacy was held in this northern section of his newly-acquired dominions. He found that the trading and inferior sort, being the greater in point of number, were for *Presbytery*, although the great body of the nobility and gentry were for supporting the national establishment of episcopacy; and, as the Scottish bishops would not throw off their allegiance to their lawful sovereign and abandon his interest, and as he could reckon on the aid and support of the presbyterian party, he cast off the former and clung to the latter, establishing their claims and protecting their institutions by royal mandates and acts of the legislature *. Thus we see the triumph of the presbyterian party complete, while the episcopal church of Scotland was left to her fate †. One of the last actions of William's life was signing a commission for passing the "*Oath of abjuration*." On his death, A. D. 1702, the youngest daughter of James VII. ascended the throne. The episcopalians of Scotland gained but little during the reign of this princess. It is true that, in the tenth year of her reign, anno 1712, an Act of Toleration was passed, by which the non-juring clergy enjoyed a greater degree of freedom than they had experienced since the abolition of episcopacy in Scotland: yet, notwithstanding the mildness of the government at that period,

* See Acts of William and Mary 1689, ch. 90. 93. and 95.

† See a copy of an original letter inserted in Keith's Catalogue, p. 41, which throws much light on this subject.

episcopacy north of the Tweed was feebly supported after the union of the two kingdoms. Meanwhile the Liturgy of the church of England was universally read in the Scottish chapels. The civil commotions of the years 1715 and 1716 caused a temporary gloom to hang over episcopacy in Scotland, which, however, was soon dissipated; and by 1720 the Scottish episcopal chapels were frequented by numerous, wealthy, and respectable members of the community of every rank. On the death of Queen Anne (the 1st of August 1714), the Elector of Hanover, a great-grandson of James VI. was declared King of England; and it being required of the episcopal clergy of Scotland to pray by name for George and his family, while James the son of the abjured king lived in exile, they refused to do so, abiding the consequences rather than violate the sacred dictates of their conscience.

Meanwhile theological differences springing up among the clergy of England, which soon extended northward to their brethren the Scottish bishops, gave rise to the observance of some usages hitherto left to the choice of whoever believed them essential in the mysteries of our holy religion. They chiefly regarded the eucharistic service*. These matters being adjusted between the English nonjuring clergy and the Scottish bishops, the latter performed the functions of their office quietly and unmolested.

* The revival of the ancient usages consisted chiefly in, 1. Mixing water with the wine: 2. Commemorating the faithful departed, at the altar: 3. Consecrating the elements by an express invocation: and, 4. Using the oblation prayer at distribution. *Skinner's Eccl. Hist.* vol. ii. p. 623. See also Supplement Encyclop. Britan. article "Episcopacy."

But another circumstance, of a different nature from the former, gave rise to a temporary misunderstanding among the presbyters and prelates of the Scottish church. It is alleged with some shew of reason, that the propositions with regard to the eucharistical service were meant as mere preliminaries to a concentrating of the ecclesiastical prerogatives in the hands of a few, as in times when civil and religious establishments were united. The scheme alluded to was, "*A College of Bishops.*" This body, contrary to the *Diocesan system*, was to have taken into its hands the exclusive government of the church. The college scheme, however, met with firm opposition; and in December 1731 articles of agreement were drawn up, and subscribed by the Bishops; which putting an end to the contest, the primitive constitution, or diocesan government of the church, was adopted, in absolute independence of civil establishment; on which footing the Scottish bishops, with becoming zeal and moderation, have continued to regulate the affairs of the church to this day.

From the year 1732 to the year 1745-6, the Scottish episcopals were allowed freedom of worship, without interruption from any quarter. The civil government firmly rooted in the suffrages of the people, the presbyterian form of worship established by legal authority; both institutions seemed fixed and unalterable: when, to the amazement of all, amid the security in which the church and state were lulled, an event took place which shook both to the centre.

The expedition into Scotland in the year 1745 of the grandson of James VII. was at first attended with such uncommon success, as appalled the stoutest hearts in both kingdoms inimical to the restoration of the house of Stuart. The youthful hero, however,

ever, was soon checked in his career; and his ill-supported scheme for placing his father on the British throne proved vain in the attempt, and disastrous in the consequences. Proscriptions and executions disgrace the page on which are recorded the civil transactions of this epocha of our British annals. Here let the veil be forever drawn.

Many of the Scottish episcopalians who took up arms in the cause of the young adventurer escaped the perils of the times. But the bishops and presbyters of the church of Scotland, whose duty it was never to shrink in the hour of danger, although their meeting-houses were laid in ashes, their congregations dispersed, and themselves without a home, as well as every moment in hazard of being seized as traitors, remained steady in their vocation, trusting in the promise of the Founder of the holy Catholic church, that the gates of hell should not prevail against it*. In this chaos of desolation what was to be done? But this was not all.

Grievous acts of the legislature were passed, with strict injunctions to see them put in execution in cases applicable, or supposed to be so. More than five persons, including the officiating clergyman, were forbid, under pain of fine and imprisonment, to worship God in one place! Incurable Jacob-

* Only two clergymen followed the army of Charles-Edward; namely, Mr. Lyon of Perth, and Mr. M'Lauchlane, who afterwards was hanged as a traitor. Mr. Skinner (Author of the Ecclesiastical History of Scotland, and of the popular songs "Tullochgorum, John O' Badenyon, &c."), after taking the oaths to Government, was imprisoned for a considerable time; as were several other clergymen of the Episcopal community. This information was communicated to the author by the Right Reverend Dr. Abernethy Drummond, to whom grateful thanks are due for many other particulars on the same subject.

ites, as they were called in derision, merited no higher degree of liberty. The hand of oppression was exercised without mercy. The penal laws were interpreted at pleasure, and stretched to the utmost. But, in the midst of the hottest persecution, the succession of bishops was preserved; and the most cordial unanimity subsisted between the presbyters and the dignitaries of the church.

On the accession of his present majesty to the throne in the year 1760, the Episcopallians of Scotland experienced a degree of indulgence hitherto unknown. The royal clemency, and the mildness of the British government, not only permitted the freedom of religious worship to the suffering Episcopal church of Scotland; but when, on the death of Charles-Edward Stuart*, its clergy judged it incumbent on them to testify their grateful sense of the indulgence experienced for such a length of time, by mentioning his majesty and the royal family in the public service of the church†, the lords spiritual and temporal as well as the commons, nay the king himself, (descended of the Stuarts, and worthy of so high a name,) came forward most willingly in support of the declining state of the ancient rights and privileges of Episcopacy in Scotland, when an act of parliament was about to be passed in its favour in the year 1790.

* Cardinal York's being a subject of the Pope, and consequently incapacitated by the spirit of the British constitution to reign as a sovereign prince, was the reason which moved them to follow the line of conduct which they deemed necessary. See Bishop Abernethy Drummond's "REASONS," printed in 1792.

† Bishop Rose of Down would not comply with the step his brethren took at that juncture. He consecrated Mr. Brown, and the latter ordained Mr. McIntosh, who is the only episcopal clergyman of the Scottish church that remains faithful to the standard of the ancient political establishment.

An unhappy misunderstanding, however, subsisting at that time between two individuals high in office, rendered fruitless the attempt to remove *certain obstacles*, and threw the act which was intended as a relief from the penal statutes (which, however just and expedient they might have been at the time they were framed and passed, became in the course of events unnecessary) into a form the aspect of which is so ungracious and uninviting, as almost to defeat the wise and salutary purposes for which it obtained the sanction of Parliament.

Soon after the act passed for affording the Scotch nonjurors relief, an union of the English ordained clergy and the congregations of the Episcopal persuasion throughout Scotland, in Diocesan order and government, was proposed. At first, this measure was cordially embraced by all concerned; but, as yet, a final adjustment has not been accomplished. It is hoped, however, that although the preliminaries of this union have not so fully met the approbation of either the party without the pale of the episcopal church, or of the venerable fathers, presbyters, and congregations (whose ancestors and predecessors weathered, as we have seen, the storms of civil broils and ecclesiastical persecution for so many ages), the day is not far distant when they shall all be "gathered into one fold under one shepherd," firmly united in the bonds of brotherly affection*.

Before closing this cursory review of the leading outlines of the history of the episcopal church of Scotland, one or two circumstances, which ought to have been noticed as we proceeded, shall now, though somewhat out of place, be slightly mentioned.

* See Bishop Abernethy Drummond's Address, 1793.

In the year 1716, an union between the *Greek church* in the East, whence Christianity first diffused its influence to the western sections of the globe, and the episcopal nonjuring church in South and North Britain, was planned and proposed to the clergy of the latter by *Arsenius*, metropolitan of Thebais in Egypt, at that time in London on his travels through Europe, soliciting the bounty of the great and the opulent in behalf of the suffering Christians under the dominion of the Mamelukes of the east. One of the Scottish bishops, Archibald Campbell, a man of strong intellectual endowments and great theological erudition, withal enthusiastic in whatever regarded the welfare of the church, falling in with Arsenius the Greek ecclesiastic, cordially recommended his propositions for an union between the churches to his English and Scottish brethren: and, far from being coldly rejected, the plan was deliberated on with becoming solemnity. The project, however, advanced but slowly. Meanwhile Arsenius, having transmitted to the patriarchs of the East the terms on which the nonjuring bishops were ready to unite with the Greek church, had travelled into Russia, where he was greatly noticed, not only by the nobility and clergy, but by Peter the Great himself, who entered warmly into the nature and object of all the views and projects of the Greek ecclesiastic.

In the year 1718, an answer from the patriarchs of the East to the propositions of the nonjuring bishops, respecting the projected union, was transmitted by Arsenius to the orthodox of Britain. Although matters did not wear an unfavourable aspect, yet on certain points with regard to usages the bishops of the West and the patriarchs of the East were not altogether unanimous; but, in order to have every thing adjusted amicably, and with as much

dispatch as the nature of the affair admitted of, Arsenius had the address to engage his Imperial Majesty's good offices in furtherance of this arduous measure. Accordingly, at the Czar's desire, two Russian ecclesiastics were to be deputed, to meet an equal number of the British nonjuring church, that all differences as to the theological points in dispute might be settled, and so desirable an union be speedily effected. In the mean time, however, the Czar of Russia died, and this event proved fatal to further negotiation; the union of the Greek Oriental church with the British nonjuring episcopacy having been no more heard of since that period*.

Another event, more fortunate than the former, and memorable for its novelty and happy issue, (marking an epocha in the history of the suffering episcopal church of Scotland,) deserves particular notice. The event alluded to was, a transatlantic translation of our Scottish succession of bishops; which took place in the person of *Doctor Samuel Seabury* of the province of Connecticut, who, on Sunday the 14th of November 1784, was publicly consecrated at Aberdeen by bishops Kilgour, Petrie, and Skinner. Thus, although the church is suffered to decline and languish in this part of our island, yet beyond the Atlantic, where religion is free from civil controul, it shall flourish in the beauty of holiness, till time be no more.

The range of the third day's excursion lies chiefly in the southern district of the Old-town, and immediate vicinity of that part of Edinburgh. From the New-town we pass into the city by the North-bridge, from which we command, on turning to

* For a more circumstantial account of the projected union, see Skinner's Hist. of the Episc. Church of Scot.

the left and looking towards the east, a striking prospect composed of a curious assemblage of objects. When contemplated in the order and variety which they present, and the circumstances conjoined,—their local history, and the purposes for which they were designed; or, when the whole assemblage is viewed as a vast picture; the scene before us is well calculated to afford much gratification. From a considerable height, we observe the objects immediately beneath. It is on a bridge that we stand, not over water, but solid ground, great part of which is paved. An inclosed area, covered with every thing in the shape of weed, marks the boundaries of what once was the Botanic Garden of Edinburgh; on the east of which is an hospital for decayed men and women, and hard by it an ancient church*; on the north, a modern church†, and, immediately adjoining, an hospital for boys and girls‡. Behind these the Calton-craigs, rugged and dark (on which the cemetery is situated, the chief

* The *Trinity Hospital* and *Trinity College Church* were founded by Mary of Geldre, James II's queen, who died anno 1463, and was buried in this church: "It was commonly called the Queen's College, and now goes by the name of the College Kirk." Keith's Catalogue, p. 289. The inhabitants of the hospital live very comfortably. For a description of this charity, see "An Historical Account of Trinity Hospital by Andrew Gairdner, Mercht. in Edin." printed anno. 1720. See also Maitland's Hist. p. 480. and Arnot's Hist. p. 361.

† Lady Glenorchy's Chapel, founded in 1772 by the pious lady whose name it bears, and opened for public worship in 1774. For a particular account of this church see Arnot's Hist. p. 270.

‡ *Orphan Hospital*. It was founded in 1732 by the before-mentioned Andrew Gairdner, with the assistance of other charitably-disposed citizens of Edinburgh. The management of this hospital is well conducted. There are upwards of a hundred orphans, male and female, maintained and educated by its funds, which were augmented considerably by its late treasurer Thomas Tod, Esq. See an Account of this charity by that gentleman, printed in 1785. See also Maitland and Arnot's Histories.

among

Craig, architect *," been adopted, this inconvenience would have been avoided.

This *arched-way* from the north to the south district of the city exhibits another instance of a *riverless-bridge*, so to express it; the utility of which is manifest, in affording free and direct communication in circumstances so peculiar with respect to situation as Edinburgh. The foundation stone of this bridge, only one arch of which is visible, although it consists of twenty-two, was laid on the 1st of August 1785 †. To make way for it, the oldest buildings in the town were pulled down, and whole lanes annihilated; and, with such celerity were the operations carried on, that in little more than two years and a half the bridge was erected, the street made passable for carriages, and many of the present houses fitted up as shops and for the reception of families. It is proper to add, that all these buildings are of hewn stone.

At the south end of South Bridge-street, on the right hand side of the way, a row of houses somewhat out of the straight line, strangely disfigured by rude designs, meant, no doubt, by the artist to represent cast iron-work, must suggest, on the slightest glance, that they were originally intended for very different purposes. These once elegant buildings were designed and executed by the celebrated architect of the Adelphi, London,

† Printed for the author, and sold by Creech, Edinburgh, and Nicol, London, 1786. According to Mr. Craig's design, the range of buildings at the entrance of the bridge from the High street was to have been in form of an octagon, and at its south entrance to have formed a crescent.

† On digging the foundation of the South-bridge, "which was no less than twenty-two feet deep, many coins of Edward I. II. and III. were found." Creech's Letters, see Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 584.

and

and were among the first erected since the introduction of modern architecture into the Scottish capital. An Ironmonger who became an inhabitant of *Adams's Square* (for such was its former name) having converted the drawing-room of the centre lodging into a cast-iron warehouse, gave rise to the following epigram, supposed to have been inscribed above the door :

This house, in which a *Vulcan* dwells,
A *Lawyer* * did possess :
Thus did the iron-age, of yore,
Succeed the age of brass.

Turning off to the left at the south end of South Bridge-street, we enter the by-lane leading to the *Royal Infirmary*. This public edifice was, at one time, esteemed a great ornament to Edinburgh ; in some respects it is so still : but in the judgment of those who contemplate the benefits arising to the public, and more especially to the destitute sick, from so excellent an institution as an hospital ; whatever pretensions it may make with regard to outward beauty, will be greatly enhanced, when its real utility is duly considered. In this view of the subject, notwithstanding all that has been said of late, in the paper-war of the day, respecting the construction and cleanliness of the wards for reception of patients, the surgical attendance, &c. the *Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh* has not only been a blessing to the destitute valetudinarians in and about that city, as well as to the community at large, but also to the whole world, so far at least as the establishment is connected with the Edinburgh school of medicine, now confessedly the first in Europe. It was

* The last Lord President of the Court of Session but one, Mr. Dundas, inhabited this house for several years.

the intention of the present writer to have stated, in a concise way, the points in dispute between the College of Surgeons and the managers of the Royal Infirmary; but, as the affair is in the hands of the gentlemen of the long robe, it is proper to remain silent until it shall have been decided.

In August 1738, the foundation-stone of the Royal Infirmary was laid; and soon after, this hospital was opened for the reception of patients, male and female, whose circumstances precluded them from obtaining medical assistance otherwise than gratuitously. Before this period there existed an hospital for the relief of the diseased poor, under the humane management of some of the leading members of the College of Surgeons of Edinburgh; and another, in a different part of the town, supported by the first founders of the Infirmary, who by this time had been incorporated by royal charter. By mutual consent of parties, an union of both these establishments took place immediately previous to the opening of the Royal Hospital; ever since which event, being upwards of sixty years, it has continued under the management of a certain number of respectable citizens, assisted by the faculty of physicians and surgeons of Edinburgh*. Besides the Royal Hospital there are two other places to which the diseased poor are admitted as patients gratis, viz. the *Public Dispensary* and the *Lying-in Hospital*, institutions of incalculable benefit to the city and its neighbourhood.

Opposite to the Royal Infirmary is *Lady Yester's Church* and church-yard, founded by Dame Margaret Ker, Lady Yester,

* For a more particular account of this institution, see Maitland's and Arnot's Histories of Edinburgh; History of the Royal Infirmary, published in 1778, and also the pamphlets lately published by Dr. Gregory, Messrs. Arrot, Bell, &c.

anno 1647. The students in Divinity in the University of Edinburgh, having no place within the precinct of the college, have an exclusive right to a loft or gallery in this church, set apart for their accommodation. The church-yard is chiefly used as a place of interment for persons who die in the hospital. When the Russian men of war lay in Leith Roads in 1799 and 1800, many of the sick and wounded were removed out of them to the Royal Infirmary, in which several died, and were buried in this cemetery. The concourse of people who flocked thither to witness the ceremony of a *Russian funeral* was immense. Such attraction hath *novelty*, that it draws after it curiosity even to the brink of the grave.

Immediately adjoining Lady Yester's Church is the *High School-yard*, which formerly was the cemetery belonging to the monastery called *Mansio Regis*, or the King's Mansion, founded by Alexander II. in 1230. This convent belonged to the order of Dominican friars. According to Lesly, the church of this religious house was chosen by Cardinal Bagimont, then Pope's Nuncio, as the place to which he summoned the Scottish ecclesiastics in 1512, to deliver on oath the amount of each of their benefices; which was afterwards looked on as the standard by which the Roman Pontiff exacted his share of the good things belonging to the Scottish abbies and bishoprics: hence the rental at that time *acknowledged* by the church was called *Bagimont's Roll* *. In 1528, this mansion was destroyed by fire; and it was scarcely rebuilt when, at the Reformation, it was demolished and denuded of every thing belonging to it. When the ma-

* See Hope's Minor Pract. p. 487, 488. Keith's Catal. p. 269. Maitland, p. 181. Arnot, p. 243.; and Lesly de Orig. Scot. lib. viii. fol. 341.

gistrates of Edinburgh acquired a right to the revenues and appurtenances of all the religious establishments in, and about the city, they wisely set about erecting seminaries of learning; the first of which was the suite of apartments lately pulled down to make way for the present school-rooms, the foundation of which was laid by Sir William Forbes, as Grand Master Mason of Scotland, on the 24th of June 1777.

This school, by way of eminence called the *Higb School**, in which youth are initiated in the rudiments of the Roman classics, was founded in the year 1578 †. Previous to that period, it should seem that not only “*a principall Grammer Scule*,” but also several schools for instruction of youth in the Latin language, had existed in Edinburgh; as appears by an express act of Town-Council, dated 10th January 1519, forbidding the citizens to send their children to be taught at any other school than that established under the sanction of the magistrates ‡.

It is difficult to conceive on what principle of perverted policy, uniformly proceeded on, the very paltry pecuniary remuneration usually bestowed on the patient persevering labours of the teachers of the elementary branches of science, in all ages and in all countries, is founded. Schoolmasters, the very pillars of society, where humanity forms the basis of knowledge

* Or perhaps from its elevated situation, and to distinguish it from other schools situated in the Cowgate, &c.

† Maitland, p. 421.

‡ “That na maner of nyctbor nor indweller within this burgh, put yair bairnis till ony particular scule within yis town, bot to the principall Grammer scule of the samyn, to be techeit in ony science, but allanerlie Grace-buke, Prymer, and Plane Donatt, under ten shillings *Scotish* money;” which fine was to be given to the master of the said school. Maitland, p. 421.

and

and civilization, and where the more exalted departments of moral science are cultivated to the utmost extent of the intellectual faculties of man, are surely so valuable a class of the community as to deserve all the regard, respect, and veneration due to talents, patient perseverance, industry, probity, and worth, so indispensable in those who are intrusted with the first rudiments of learning and the moral rectitude of youth. Need it then be added, that as poverty, by some strange perversion of human reason, is viewed with the pity of contempt, it is becoming, nay even necessary, to place the instructors of our children beyond the reach of indigence, and consequent disdain and neglect. The supercilious sneer of the purse-proud, the vain, and the ignorant, will but betray the weakness of a mind, in the culture of which powers of vegetating energy have been wasted in the production of weedy and unprofitable abundance. This reflection was naturally suggested in the train of thought occasioned by contemplating the very inadequate salary and school fees which the masters of the High School of Edinburgh have had from the very beginning, or nearly so, of that institution down to the present time. It may with great truth be asserted, that at this moment, when the very *brown bread* which the whole nation, by an act of its own legislature, is made to eat, costs three times as much as it could have been purchased for ten, nay three years ago, the teachers of every denomination throughout North Britain can hardly preserve their usual respectability or credit. Let there be but one mind, one universal consent, one voice, imperious in the demand of speedy and liberal support to the just claims of the respectable body of schoolmasters in this section of the empire: it will form a memorable

morale epocha in the commencement of the nineteenth century.

We have very little information left us respecting the age, and manner of conducting the exercises of the youths attending the Latin school of Edinburgh soon after its first establishment*. It seems, however, from a circumstance about to be related, that the scholars of this seminary were of a bold and turbulent spirit highly characteristic of the era of the Reformation. On the 15th September 1595, a little beyond the usual time of the recesses from school, the youths, becoming impatient of their wonted privilege being withheld, assembled tumultuously, and went in a body to the town house, to demand of the magistrates their accustomed relief from attendance at school : but, being refused, the mutiny became deeper, more systematic, and formidable. Having provided themselves with meat and drink, as well as fire-arms, they took possession of the school-house, with a determination to admit neither their teachers, nor any one else, till their demand was complied with. The magistrates, hearing of this, deputed one of their number, namely, John Macmor-rane, together with several of the town-officers, to endeavour to appease the youthful insurgents, or force open the doors. The attempt proved vain, and the issue disastrous. The deputed magistrate and certain of his assistants took a beam of wood and ran it with great force against the door, in order to force it open and seize the mutineers. One of the latter, the son of

* At first there was only one master and an usher. The elementary books were, Dunbar's Rudiments, Corderius's Colloquies, portions of Erasmus, Terence, Ovid, Virgil, Sallust, Cæsar, Cicero, and Buchanan's Psalms, as appears from the Town-Council Register for the year 1598.

William

William Sinclair, chancellor of Caithness, called out to the assailants to desist, otherwise he would blow out the brains of the first man who ventured to approach. The magistrate, regardless of the threat, persisted in his duty; and young Sinclair but too fatally kept his promise. He fired his pistol; and its contents entering the skull of John Macmorrane, he, in the language of Maitland, "fell asleep in the Lord *." Immediately on this tragical event, the scholars surrendered, and were conveyed to prison; but were soon afterwards released, and the affair was hushed up †.

A little to the eastward of the High School is the hall of the *Medical Society*, near to which is *Surgeons' Hall*: behind the latter are Messrs. Thomson and Allen's lecture-room and chemical laboratory; and a little to the east, Mr. John Bell's anatomical theatre is situated. Adjoining the Medical Society's hall are Mr. Ramsay's Anatomical Museum and dissecting rooms. In the outer yard are Dr. Thomson's rooms, late Mr. Neilson's, in which he teaches chemistry; and Dr. Barcaley's small anatomical theatre is on the north side of the yard. In short, this corner is entirely set apart for the study of the classics, and the preparative studies of Medical science: it may therefore, without much impropriety of language, be denominated *The Lesser University of Edinburgh*.

THE GREATER UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, or *King James's College* as it is sometimes called, having acquired a high degree of celebrity among the universities of Europe, shall in this place have a few pages devoted to a slight sketch of its history.

* Maitland's Hist. p. 201.

† See Birrel's Diary, p. 34, 35.

Seminaries set apart for learning and the muses are but of recent establishment in this northern section of Britain, when compared with the high antiquity to which the era of either university south of the Tweed is referred. Nor is it a matter of much wonder that, in a country where the king and nobility disregarded humanity in every shape, and held in contempt knowledge and men of letters, learning of every species should find few without the walls of the cloister disposed to the devotion of the muses, and the calm pleasurable pursuits of elegant literature. Hence it is that, until the fifteenth century had considerably advanced, there was not to be found in Scotland a public institution, or body corporate, in which professors and students lived in ease and quiet, protected from the intrusions of the ignorant and the vulgar of whatever condition, while in the laborious career of storing the mind with classical skill in letters and the various departments of polite and useful knowledge. The universities of St. Andrews *, of Glasgow †, and of Aberdeen ‡, had existed for a considerable length of time before that of Edinburgh was thought of; and when it was first proposed, it met with considerable opposition from the archbishops of St. Andrew's and Glasgow, as well as from the ecclesiastics of the see of Aberdeen, who looked toward the rising consequence of Edinburgh, as yet not ranked among the bishoprics of the north, with a jealous eye; lest, eventually, the interest of the old universities should suffer by a preference being given to the new, which, from what had happened in similar cases, was naturally to be apprehended. Edinburgh, however, before the establishment of its university, had not been altogether without

* Founded in 1411.

† Founded in 1452.

‡ Founded in 1494.

a *nursery of learning*. James I. the wisest and best of our Scottish race of Kings, accomplished himself, and, desirous of promoting knowledge, had, after his return from captivity in England, invited to his native dominions a number of learned men of the order of St. Francis, conferring on them grants and erecting houses for their reception in various districts. The citizens of Edinburgh, zealous to promote the religion and learning of the times, caused a magnificent convent to be built, the first, it is said, bestowed on the order, for the comfortable accommodation of certain Gray-friars, among whom was Cornelius of Zirichzen, a man of great learning and reputation. But brother Cornelius, thinking the splendid apartments * provided by the good citizens of Edinburgh, for the reception of himself and his meek, pious, and learned brethren, but ill suited in appearance to the *shirtless*, bare-footed Franciscans, who went with their wallets seeking charity from door to door like other sturdy beggars, modestly declined accepting the appointment; however, by the persuasion of James Kennedy, archbishop of St. Andrews, founder of St. Salvator's college in that university, Cornelius fixed for a time his residence in Edinburgh, where he himself, and his friars, and their successors, taught philosophy and divinity until the year 1559; at which time the dissolution of religious houses taking place, the Gray-friars, Black-friars, White-friars, and all friars, were fain to beg in earnest, and shift for themselves elsewhere.

* "This house was situated on the south side of the *Grafsmarket*, almost opposite to the Westbow Street; the gardens of which were by an act of Town-Council in the year 1561 converted into a burying-place;" it is now called the Gray-friars Churchyard. See Maitland's Hist. p. 189.

After the Reformation was fully established, the citizens of Edinburgh petitioned their royal mistress* for the lands and other property which lately belonged to the Black and Gray-friars in the neighbourhood of the city. A school for initiating youth in the elements of the Latin language was erected, as already hath been mentioned, soon after Mary had given away the houses and whole appurtenances of the exiled Franciscans; and the magistrates and town council having acquired a right to the property of the collegiate church of St. Mary in the Field (*Sancta Maria in campis*), and having also been put in possession of eight thousand merks Scottish money bequeathed by Robert Reid bishop of Orkney, and President of the Court of Session, who died at Dieppe on the 14th September 1558, together with a collection of books left in 1580 by Clement Little, advocate, in the year 1581 set about erecting a college for the accommodation of professors and students. In 1582 this college was so far advanced as to give reason to hope that its completion would soon be effected; and in the meantime a charter of erection was granted by James VI. dated at Stirling the 14th of April of the same year. In 1583 the college was opened for the reception of students. *Robert Rollock*, of St. Salvator's college, St. Andrew's, being appointed Professor of Humanity, began teaching in the lower hall of *Hamilton-house*, within the precincts of the college. Soon after, Rollock, finding the students who resorted to the new university rather indifferently grounded in their Latin, recommended as an assistant one *Duncan Nairn*, to prepare the younger students for their initiation into a knowledge of the Greek and Roman classics.

* A. D. 1566.

In 1585 *, the infant university received a temporary check, owing to the plague appearing in Edinburgh, which began in May, and continued its ravages till the January following†: but, notwithstanding this terrible visitation, the magistrates persevered with unwearied diligence in the prosecution of their plan; for by spring 1586 the college was inclosed within high walls; and a third professor of philosophy being chosen, Rollock was made *Principal*. The session opened on the 29th of February of that year, after which a recess of one month was deemed necessary for the masters and students before entering on the proper business of the course.

A law professor was next chosen; but, instead of giving prelections on law, he taught the Humanity class, which fell vacant on the promotion of Rollock to be chief of the university.

In the year 1617, soon after James had returned from his court of St. James's to visit that of Holyrood-house, he was greatly pleased to find the progress his favourite university had made during his absence, a period of about thirteen years. By this time, a public hall, a divinity school, and other apartments were erected; and so much satisfied was the king, that he resolved on honouring the university with his presence at an intended public disputation in philosophy. But business multiplying on his hands whilst he remained at Holyrood-house, James invited the professors of the college to meet him at Stir-

* Maitland says 1584. See p. 364.

† “ The hail peipell quhilk wer abill to see, fled out of the toun; nevertheles
“ ther dyed of peipill wich wer not abill to see, 14 hundreth and some odd.” Birrel,
p. 23.

ling; where, on the 29th of July 1617, in the chapel-royal of that city, and in the presence of the king, the nobility, and many of the learned men of England and Scotland, a disputation took place, in which, during the space of three hours, the king himself bore no inconsiderable share. It was on this occasion that James, highly pleased with the ingenuity and learning displayed in the course of the debate by the Edinburgh professors, after supper addressed them in a strain of *punning panegyric* peculiar to the royal pedant, which afterwards was turned into miserable rhyme: the concluding verses run thus:

“ To their (*i. e.* the professors) deserved praise have I

“ Thus played upon their names;

“ And wills their college hence be call’d

“ *The College of King James* *.”

Accordingly, after he had written to the magistrates of Edinburgh †, that as he “ gave the first being and beginning thairunto,” so he “ thocht it worthie to be honoured with” his “ name of” his “ awin imposition;” they, at the request of the royal god-father, called the infant University “ *The College of King James*,” which name it retains to this day. James was not forgetful of his *god-bairn* ‡; and private benefactors contributing

* See Campbell’s Hist. of Poet. in Scot. p. 159.

† — “ These are to desire zow, to order the said college to be callit in all tyme hereafter by the name of King James’s College, which we intend for ane speciall mark and ane baidge of our favour toward the same.”—Dated *Faisley*, 25th July 1617. Maitland, p. 363.

‡ “ One who stood by (continues the author of the anecdote alluded to) told his majesty, that there was one of the company of whom he had taken no notice, Mr. *Henry Charteris*, principal of the college, (who sate late upon the president’s right hand,) a man of exquisite and universal learning, although he had no knack of speaking in publick

Buting liberally toward this rising institution; it gradually advanced in celebrity in the various departments of art and science, as well as independence in point of funds.

As yet, episcopacy maintained its sway as conjoined with civil establishment in the northern parts of this island. Among the men, who, prior to the usurpation of Cromwell, were eminent in the Scottish episcopal church, and were distinguished for their genius and learning, *Andrew Ramsay*, whose elegant Latin poem on the Creation, Lauder, in his "Essay on Milton's Use and Imitation of the Moderns in his Paradise Lost," asserts to be that from which the divine bard so liberally culled the loveliest flowers to adorn the garland which shades his venerable temples*, and Mr. *John Adamson*, principal of the college, the friend and

publick before so august an assembly. Then (answered the king) well does his name agree with his nature; for *Charters* contain much matter, but say nothing.

"Those who stood by the king's chare much commended his majesty's sagacious allusions to the actors (speakers) names; and his majesty pressed that the same should be turned into poesis, wherein his majesty delighted much, and had an excellent faculty; which was accordingly done.

"One of the English doctors wondering at his majesty's gift in the Latin tongue, all the world; says he, knows that my master, George Buchanan, was a great master in that faculty. I follow his pronounciation both of the Latin and Greek, and am sorry my people of England do not do the like; for, certainly, their pronounciation spoileth all the grace of these learned languages; but ye see my learned men in Scotland expresse the true and native pronounciation of both.

"His majesty continued his discourses upon the purposes ventilated that day, till ten o'clock at night, with much subtilty of knowledge, to the admiration of the understanding hearers, after which he declared that, as he had given the college a name, he would also (in convenient time) give it a royal god-bairn gift (as we say) for enlarging the patrimony thereof."

* See Lauder, p. 78, et passim; also *Deliciæ Poetarum Scotorum* apud Bleau 1633; and Campbell's *Hist. of Poet. in Scotland*, p. 278.

contemporary of *Drummond of Hawthornden*, may be mentioned as belonging to the university of Edinburgh. After the restoration likewise, *Alexander Monro*, D. D. was principal of this college, and had a *Congé d'elire* in his favour for the see of Argyle*. Even during the usurpation, men eminent for their abilities filled the chairs of the Edinburgh university, among whom was the celebrated *Robert Leighton*, afterwards archbishop of Glasgow †, an illustrious exception, when “a new order of men had arisen, more austere and furious than the older clergy. The chairs of theology and of philosophy, then degraded to its hand-maid, were appropriated in the university to teachers like Rutherford, Blair, Gillespie, Cant, whose faith and violence were at least equal to their literature‡.”

But when the Solemn League and Covenant, that terrible engine so effectual in its anti-monarchial powers, was pushed with full might to the subversion of the British throne, the period was peculiarly unfavourable to the calm pursuits of literature; yet *Cromwell*, with a munificence characteristic of a vigorous mind, bent on the glory of being at once the asserter of independence, the usurper of the kingly power, and the patron of learning, endowed the university of Edinburgh with

* Keith's Catalogue, p. 174.

† “When some of his (Leighton's) warm brethren (says Keith) had once at a meeting proposed that the solemn league and covenant might be commended and preached to the people more universally from the pulpit; and his opinion came in course to be asked, his answer was, that every one might insist on that matter as they should be directed; but, for his part, his main scope should be, so far as God would enable him, to preach Christ crucified;” (Keith, p. 158.) an example worthy of imitation by our modern political orators in the pulpit.

‡ Laing's Hist. of Scotland, book iv.

an annuity of two hundred pounds sterling*. *William Prince of Orange*, following the example of the usurper, also bestowed an annuity of three hundred pounds sterling on this college, to be paid out of his treasury and bishops' rents in Scotland. This grant, however, his successor Queen Anne "curtailed," by which means a professor and fifteen students (Bursers) were discharged from the benefaction †.

* Maitland, p. 368.

† The following performance, (being seldom to be met with,) as exhibiting a specimen of poetry in Scotland at the era of its date; as also containing a succession of principals of the Edinburgh university from its origin, to the death of the subject of this Lamentation, may not be deemed unworthy of insertion in this place.

LACHRYMÆ *Académie* JACOBI *Regis Edinburgensis*, in obitum venerandi viri JACOBI SMITHÆI, ornatissimi sui *Gymnasiarchæ*; qui ab Angliâ rediens, Coldstreamæ post tridie idus sextiles, A. Æ. C. MDCCXXXVI, ætatis LVI, multum desideratus interiit.

*Urit enim fulgore suo qui pregravat artis
Infra se positas: extinctus amabitur idem.*

HOR. EP. II. 1.

Hei mihi! perpetuæ lachrymæ, sine fine dolores
Ingeminant: semper stetibus ora madent
ROLLORUM, BODIUM, CHARTERUM, nomina clara;
ADAMIDEM atque alios, lumina adempta fletu.
Nec non divinum LICHTONUM ploro, priusque
COLVILLUM, sæcli sidera pulchra sui.
Hos quoque SANDÆUM ac CANTÆUM plango celebres,
MONROUMQUE gravem; teque, RULÆ, gemo.
Nuper & amissi præsidem CARSTARIUS, atque
Mitis HAMILTONUS, tuque VISARTE pie.
Nunc quoque legendus nobis SMITHÆUS acutus,
Concilio pollens, artibus, eloquio:
Cui fuit incoctum generoso pectus honesto;
Conscia mens recti, fraude doloque vacans.
Hoc duce florebant artes, læsetque relictæ
Stant iterum fixæ: proq! cadit ante diem!

Suaviloquus

Thus having traced the origin, rise, and progress of the Edinburgh university, a few words will suffice with respect to its
con-

Snaviloquus præco dum fundit dogmata CHRISTI
Mellifluis verbis, grex stupet, ardet amans.
Auribus hinc avidis haurit plebs dulcia decta ;
Suspicit et rapitur plurima docto cohors.
Inque illo explicuit totas facundia vires,
Nunc manans facilis more fluentis aquæ ;
Nunc quoque, dum sacri moderatur frena senatus,
Torrens & rapido flumine cuncta domans,
Hic simul affurgit rumpitque silentia voce,
Nestoris aure bibit tota corona sonos.
Ille regit dictis animos, & pectora mutiet ;
Jurgia diffugiunt : pax bona grata placet.
Ast quid ego lachrymas effundo tristis inanes ?
Nostris, ah ! precibus non revocandus abest.
Mens cognata polo seperas ascendit in arces,
Ætheræque ardet visere læta domos ;
Pax ubi, lux pura and nullis obducta tenebris,
Delicizque novæ fonte perenne fluunt.

Lamentation of the University of Edinburgh, on the Death of the Reverend Mr. JAMES SMITH, Principal. Translated from the Latin.

Ah hapless lot ! for ever drenched in tears,
Grief after grief consumes my wasting years :
ROLLOCK, and BOYD, and CHARTERS, glorious names !
Next SAND my elegiac numbers claims :
Of briny tears an unexhausted store,
Thy loss, sage ADAMSON, can scarce deplore ;
Next LEIGHTON, all divine, commands my plaint ;
Celestial mortal, or angelic saint !
Thy rigid fate, great COLVILL ! next I mourn ;
And next with copious tears bedew thy urn,
Learn'd CANT ! renown'd MONRO ; illustrious pair !
Whose memory, respectful, I revere ;

Thine

constitution and government. As the college was originally an institution (sanctioned, it is true, by royal authority,) entirely

Thine too, dread **RULE**! exacts a doleful groan,
 Whose reign for strictest discipline was known;
 Anon the dolorous fate of wife **CARSTAIRS**
 Materials for my mournful muse prepares:
WISEHEART's pure zeal, unmix'd with outward show,
 Calls forth the loudest accents of my woe;
 Mild **HAMILTON**, of every grace possess'd,
 First in the front of heroes stands confess'd;
 And with his lov'd remembrance wrings my anxious-breast.
SMITH claims my sorrows next, a sage renown'd
 For prudence, eloquence, and parts profound,
 Whose generous soul with upright counsels stor'd,
 Deceit and guileful measures still abhor'd:
 Learning and arts now rear their drooping head;
 And wholesome laws in ancient course proceed.
 Thus urging great designs, the hero dies!
 And with him schemes and projects just and wise!
 More still remains, -- his flock in deep suspense,
 Their pastor heard the gospel truths dispense
 In melting sounds, with pious rapture fir'd;
 While hearers, high and low, alike admir'd.
 Lo! eloquence, exerting all its force,
 Now softly glides along with gentle course,
 Now torrent-like, impetuous downward rolls,
 Conqu'ring with rapid currents stubborn souls.
 How soon he rises in the numerous throng,
 Persuasion follows from his powerful tongue,
 And wins the high debate. Contentions cease,
 And welcome, best of blessings, social peace.
 But why, profuse of tears, his fate bemoan?
 Not by our prayers to be retriev'd; he's gone:
 His soul, alk'd to heaven, ascends on high,
 And greets his kindred souls beyond the sky:
 There peace, and love, and light, serene and pure,
 And pleasures, ever new, perpetual bliss insure.

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founded by private donations, and erected under the immediate inspection of the magistrates of Edinburgh, they have the sole right of appointing professors to fill the various departments of learning: of consequence, the Town-Council of Edinburgh still continued to act as absolute curators, patrons, and governors of the university.

For a considerable length of time, as in all the other universities in Scotland, so in this, little else was taught besides the dead languages, the divinity and philosophy of the schools, and some branches of the mathematics then in general use. But after the restoration, revolution, and accession of the house of Hanover, professors for additional departments of science were appointed; and in the year 1720 the School of Medicine, which hath lately risen to such great eminence, was first founded: in order, however, to trace distinctly its rise and progress, it will be necessary to take a retrospect of the state of medical knowledge prior to this era.

Before the commencement of the eighteenth century every thing connected with the healing art in the Scottish capital was wretched in the extreme. Barbers and surgeons were one and the same profession, who exclusively practised as a craft the dressing of wounds, shaving of beards, and making and selling of whisky*, throughout the *gude* town: at the same time, empiricks, natives and foreigners, male and female, ignorant and illiterate, gave advice and prescribed medicine; while what were called the regular practitioners, without knowledge or experience, administered to their patients as chance or whim directed.

* Aqua vitæ.

To illustrate this by an appeal to history, we find that, when the surgeons of Edinburgh were, by *Seal of Cause* of the Town-Council in 1505, incorporated under the denomination of *Surgeons and Barbers*, and afterwards by royal charter of confirmation anno 1506*, it was required of them to be able to *read and write!* to “knew anatomie, nature and complexioun of everie member of humanis bodie; and lykwayes to know all the vaynes of the samyn, that he may mak flewlothomea in dew tyme;” together with a perfect knowledge of shaving beards: these were all the qualifications that seemed necessary to the art of surgery at the beginning of the sixteenth century. The practice of physic was, if possible, in a more deplorable state. It should seem, however, that, toward the latter part of the seventeenth century, the profession of physic was in more reputable hands than it had been. In the charter of erection of the present Royal College of Physicians, dated the 29th of

* In the reign of James IV. His grand-daughter Mary in 1567 granted an exemption from *watching* and *warding* and serving upon juries to the barbers and surgeons, in consideration of their close application to their duty; which grant was confirmed by James VI. in 1613, and by act of parliament (Charles I.) in 1641. In 1657, by act of Council, the apothecaries were associated into one community, by which means the poor *shavers* were edged aside; and in 1682, it was recommended to the craft of surgeons and apothecaries to proceed to Edinburgh with a sufficient number of persons properly qualified to *shave* and *cut hair*. In 1722, the Court of Session, by a special decree, separated the barbers forever from the surgeons and apothecaries; yet still the knights of the razor had one privilege left them, which at present they seem to have lost sight of, that of making *aqua vite*, or *whisky*, besides that of shaving, cutting hair, and making wigs. But, although they were prohibited from practising surgery, and thrust out from the incorporation, still, as a mark of their dependance on their parent society, they are obliged to register the names of their apprentices in the surgeons' books. In the year 1778, this ancient and respectable community were erected anew by the title of “*The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh*.” See Maitland's Hist. p. 294, 295, 296.; and Arnot's Hist. p. 524, 525.

November 1681, confirmed by parliament on the 16th of June. 1685, the name of the celebrated *Pitcairne* is mentioned, which furnishes one proof of the truth of the preceding remark. The father-in-law of Dr. Pitcairne, Sir Archibald Stevenfon, was a physician of eminence then in practice at Edinburgh; and the ingenious Sir Robert Sibbald, the impugnator of Pitcairne's doctrines, was likewise a member of the Royal College of Physicians. Hence it is observable, that towards the close of the seventeenth century something like the beginnings of a medical school appeared in the Scottish capital.

Pitcairne, who had himself studied at Paris, returned to his native country well skilled in his art as it was then practised on the continent. In 1692 he was called to fill the chair as Professor of Medicine in the University of Leyden, where the celebrated *Boerhaave* became his pupil. His stay in Leyden, however, was of but short duration, as in 1693 he returned to Edinburgh, married, and settled, practising as a physician. It does not appear that he gave lectures publicly on any branch of medicine: but he wrote in vindication of the great discovery then recently made by the immortal *Harvey* respecting the true circulation of the blood*; which admirable discovery, with justice ascribed to the English philosopher, forms so memorable an era in the history of medicine. The practice of surgery had emerged from that chaos of doubt and error in which, previous to Harvey's discoveries, it had been involved: and Pitcairne himself, who had been invited by the College of Surgeons in

* Vide "*Solutio problematis de inventaribus*, anno 1688." His *Elementa Medicinæ Physico-Mathematicæ* was published after his death, which happened in 1713.

Edinburgh to become a member, deemed it an honour, and took his seat among them. This illustrious physician ceased to adorn his profession and enliven society on the 20th day of October 1713; at which period the surgeon-apothecaries had among them a few promising young men, some of whom laid the foundation of the Edinburgh School of Medicine, which is now one of the most distinguished in Europe. Still, however, from that prejudice against violating their remains so naturally associated in the mind with our lively regret for the dead departed, few opportunities were afforded by dissections of studying the anatomy of the human body; and although two apothecary-surgeons, namely Mr. John M'Gill and Mr. Adam Drummond, had the title of joint Professors of Anatomy to the Surgeons' Company, yet dissections (being usually performed on subjects which had suffered death as criminals*, and were only permitted for this purpose) occurring but seldom, afforded but little gratification or instruction to the young student.

John Monro, the youngest son of Sir Alexander Monro, of Bearcroft in Stirlingshire, was educated as a surgeon-apothecary at Edinburgh; and having served in King William's army in Flanders as a surgeon, he quitted it three years after his son Alexander, his only child, was born, and returned to Edinburgh, where he remained in extensive practice during the remainder of a useful life. Monro the elder, observing the inclination of the future father of the anatomical department of

* In their petition to the Town-Council of Edinburgh (A. D. 1505), the barber-surgeons say—"and that we may have ains in the zeir ane condampnit man efter he deid, to mak anatomie of, quhairthrow we may haif experience, ilk ane to instruct uthers, and we sall do suffrage for the soule." See Maitland, Hist. p. 294.

the Edinburgh School of Medicine, promoted by every means possible the bent of his son's studies. He sent him to London, Paris, and Leyden, to improve himself; and the reward of his paternal solicitude and fond wishes was, the return of an accomplished and enlightened youth of such hopeful promise as gained him the regard of the faculty, many of whom eagerly desired he might open a class for anatomical demonstration. Accordingly, young Monro was prevailed on to commence, privately, a course of anatomy; on delivering the first lecture of which he found himself in the midst, not of a few raw students, but of the whole company of surgeons and apothecaries, together with the fellows of the College of Physicians, having the president at their head. For a moment the youthful demonstrator felt the glow of modest diffidence: the words of his intended discourse seemed to have entirely escaped his recollection; his notes were left at home; and in this dilemma he had recourse to that presence of mind which subsequently distinguished this singular genius. He began to shew the preparations which lay before him: the signs for the things signified arranging themselves in his mind, utterance soon followed; and this experiment answering the purpose so completely, he ever after accustomed himself to extemporaneous delivery. Those who remember his ready, clear, logical, pithy manner of demonstration, speak in high terms of him as a lecturer.

Our young anatomist having succeeded in his first attempts so much to the satisfaction of every one, the next aim of his father was, to realize a plan which he had formed in his own mind respecting a medical school in the university, to be established on a regular, permanent, and respectable footing; a thing heretofore

heretofore but imperfectly conducted, and ill-directed*. About the year 1720, the father communicated his ideas on this subject to his brethren of the faculty, who, warmly interesting themselves in behalf of the son, prevailed with the Town-Council to appoint *Alexander Monro*, a name ever to be revered, professor of anatomy in the university of Edinburgh. Dr. Alston, who, prior to this period, had been appointed the professor of materia medica and botany, was induced, from the example of so able a colleague, to give a regular course of lectures in his department; and, in the beginning of the winter 1720, Monro opened a class for initiating students in anatomy, physiology, and surgery. Thus we have seen a medical school, from a very humble origin, rise into consequence, and continue to advance daily, by energetic means wisely adapted to render its institution a benefit to the whole world.

Soon after Monro and Alston began to teach regularly, other branches of medical science were filled with able professors. Dr. Sinclair delivered lectures on the theory of medicine; Dr. Rutherford on the practice; Dr. Plumer, on chemistry; Dr. Alston, on materia medica and botany; and Dr. Monro, on anatomy, &c. About this time the Medical Society of Edinburgh was instituted; and near the same period the Royal Infirmary was opened for the reception of patients. The medical school being thus fully established, and the several departments supplied with able professors, they and their successors in office contributed, and still continue to contribute largely, toward the accumulated body of medical science, so powerful in its progress

* Before the year 1720, there was no public teacher of physic in the university of Edinburgh, except, indeed, that in winter Dr. Crawford gave a superficial course of chemistry, and in summer Dr. Preston gave a slight sketch of botanical lectures on a few officinal plants.

at the commencement of the nineteenth century. It is worthy of remark, and it may not be uninteresting to know, that several of the chairs of the medical departments have been filled with the descendants of the founders of our school of medicine and their immediate successors; among these is the present Dr. Alexander Monro, senior, who succeeded his father in the year 1760, and who, like his venerable father, after forty years labours in the anatomical theatre, relinquished the severer duty in favour of his eldest son Dr. Alexander Monro, junior, now joint professor of anatomy, physic, and surgery, in the university of Edinburgh*.

What greatly contributed to raise and establish the fame of the medical school of Edinburgh was, the chairs being filled by some of the greatest improvers of the healing art in modern times; among whom may be mentioned Cullen, Black, and Gregory, names that will remain as immortal as the science itself, which they laboured to free from that mass of unintelligible matter under which it lay buried for ages.

But, much as the School of Medicine of the Edinburgh university may have contributed to raise the latter in the estimation of all Europe, its just claims to celebrity by no means rest on this basis, however elevated it may seem to superficial observation. On the contrary, some of the greatest men that have appeared on the theatre of the world in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, as statesmen, lawyers, divines, physicians, mathematicians, poets, and orators, were reared in this hot-bed

* No less than five of our present professors in the medical departments have succeeded to chairs in which their fathers flourished, viz. Drs. Gregory, Hope, Home, Hamilton, and Monro.

of science. The mean appearance which its buildings exhibited before the commencement of the noble structure now erecting, but ill accorded with the fame that its illustrious sons had acquired at home and abroad. This inconvenience was long felt and justly complained of, before those difficulties which prevented the attempt to build a new college could be surmounted. Happily, however, these becoming less formidable, a "memorial relating to the university of Edinburgh" was drawn up by one of its distinguished professors, and printed in the year 1768 ; in which a proposal for re-building the fabric of the college according to a regular plan, on the site of the ancient halls and teaching-rooms, was submitted for public consideration. Voluntary contributions from persons of generosity and patriotic dispositions, willing to promote the interests and better accommodation of those employed in the important institutions for the instruction of young men in the various departments of literature and science, were to be received, and places were to be opened for subscriptions, under the management of certain administrators or trustees, in order to raise a sufficient fund for carrying the design into execution as speedily as the nature of circumstances would permit. This enterprise seemed for a time to gain countenance from the public ; yet the means being insufficient to realize the project, it was laid aside till a more favourable opportunity presented. But the American war, which lasted so long, threw a damp on every undertaking ; and it was not until after peace was proclaimed, and that the nation had in some measure recovered its energy, prosperity, and public spirit, that the subject was revived, in a well written letter to the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, "On the proposed improvements

of the city of Edinburgh, and on the means of accomplishing them," printed in the year 1785. In this publication several hints are thrown out with regard to the plan to be followed in rebuilding the College; and, if duly adverted to and judiciously followed, they may be of much importance in the execution of the undertaking, which, although arrested in its progress, will go forward when peace and abundance shall once more shed their blessings around the British empire.

Several sums having been collected in various parts for the purpose of erecting the intended new college, on the 16th of November 1789 the foundation-stone of this magnificent fabric was laid by *Lord Napier* *, as grand master-mason of Scotland, one of whose ancestors was "a man whose original and universal genius placed him high among the illustrious persons who have contributed most eminently to enlarge the boundaries of human knowledge." The ceremony on this memorable occasion was in an eminent degree august and impressive. The magistrates in their robes, the principal and professors in their gowns, the students with leaves of laurel in their hats †, the free-masons

* The Right Honourable Francis Lord Napier, the lineal representative of Napier of Merchiston, the inventor of logarithms.

† Many of the students indeed, particularly of the students of medicine, declined to join the procession, having taken some offence at the late period at which an invitation was given them, and some other circumstances. But we may with confidence assert, that all of them unite in wishing success to this undertaking; and we doubt not that they will be still more ready to demonstrate gratitude to their Alma Mater for real services, than they have been to shew resentment at the conduct of some of their elder brethren, for what at the utmost could only be considered as an unintended affront. *Duncan's Medical Commentaries*, vol. xiv. p. 487. At that time there were attending the university several very high-minded young men, some of whom fought duels, and one actually fell dead on the spot, little more than a month after the foundation-stone of the new college was laid.

arranged according to the seniority of their respective lodges, with the mysterious insignia of their order, and a vast concourse of people, made the procession to and from the sacred spot a spectacle never to be forgotten, as forming an era in the annals of our national history *.

At the time when the foundation-stone of the new buildings was laid, the university of Edinburgh was in the most flourishing condition. Upwards of a thousand young men, from almost every nation in Europe, and most of the United States in America, were prosecuting their studies at this celebrated seat of education. It is a curious fact, not generally known perhaps, that in the course of twenty years, (viz. from 1768 to 1788) the number of students had increased nearly double; and of the increase in the number of medical students alone some idea may be formed from the following statement. When, in the year 1766, the late Doctor John Gregory was called, on the resignation of the late Doctor Rutherford, to the professorial chair of the practice of medicine, the average number of persons that attended his lectures did not much exceed ninety. His son Dr. James Gregory, who now fills the chair in which his father taught, has had, since the late Dr. Cullen resigned in his favour, (which took place in December 1789,) from two hundred and twenty to two hundred and forty students attending his class, most of whom graduated in the university †.

The anatomical and chirurgical demonstrations and prelections of Dr. Monro are usually attended by nearly double the number

* An interesting detail of the ceremony may be found in "Preston's Illustrations of Masonry," 10th edit. (1801), p. 297—305.

† This communication was politely made by the present professor of the practice of medicine, at the request of the author, who had the honour of being at one time his pupil.

that attend any other of the medical departments, if we except that of chemistry and of the practice of physic. This can easily be accounted for: of the students attending the former, many, through mere love of science, think the time well spent which they devote to this elegant and useful branch of natural philosophy; and more than one half of those who attend the anatomical theatre settle in life as surgeons or apothecaries, and not a few go into the army and navy as surgeons or assistants.

It may not be uninteresting to know the precise number, in one general view, of the students who have attended the Edinburgh school of medicine from its commencement in the year 1720 till the year 1800.

Number of Students in Physic in the University of Edinburgh, from the Year 1720 to the Year 1800.

	STUDENTS.
Ab anno 1720 ad annum 1790, - -	12,800
Ab anno 1790, ad annum 1800, - -	3,130.
Ab anno 1720 ad annum 1800, - -	<u>15,930*</u>

It appears then, that in the course of eighty years, of which time the venerable founder of the medical institutions, Dr. Alexander Monro, filled the chair of medicine, anatomy, and surgery, the first half, and his son, the present Dr. Alexander Monro senior, the latter half, no less than fifteen thousand nine hundred and thirty persons have been instructed in the

* The author is here bound in duty to acknowledge, that the reader is in possession of this notice from so respectable an authority as Doctor Monro senior, by whom it was communicated with much candour and urbanity, and for which his former pupil embraces this occasion of expressing his gratitude and respect.

healing

healing art in the University of Edinburgh. And it may safely be averred, that of this number are some of the first medical writers and practitioners dispersed over the whole habitable globe, whose discoveries and improvements reflect lustre on themselves, as well as on the Alma Mater in which they were initiated in true science and elegant learning.

One peculiarity, which distinguishes the university of Edinburgh from all others in the British empire, is, that the students of every denomination live promiscuously, in the manner best suited to their circumstances and inclinations, with the inhabitants of the city; and it is not required of them by college rules to appear in any dress by which they may be distinguished from other citizens. In the choice of their academical pursuits too, they are left at perfect freedom; which is considered as one of the best means of keeping alive that desire of distinction, the natural offspring of well directed self-love and exalted emulation. It has also been a consideration of the highest importance with the patrons of the university, to call to its chairs none other than men whose talents and rectitude of conduct are highly respectable in the arduous undertaking of directing and superintending the various branches of literature and science to which young men may choose to bend their attention. "With what integrity and discernment persons have been chosen to preside in each of these departments (says the eloquent Robertson), the character of my learned colleagues affords the most satisfying evidence. From confidence in their abilities, and assiduity in discharging the duties of their respective offices, the university of Edinburgh has become a seat of education, not only to youth in every part of the British dominions, but, to the honour of our country,"

"country, students have been attracted to it from almost every nation in Europe and every state in America*."

The several branches of science taught in the university of Edinburgh at present (1801), with the names of the professors of each, are as follow :

HUMANITY, OR LATIN,	-	John Hill.
GREEK,	- - -	Andrew Dalzel.
MATHEMATICS AND ASTRONOMY,	{	Adam Ferguson and John Playfair.
LOGIC AND METAPHYSICS,	-	James Finlayson.
NATURAL AND EXPERIMENTAL PHILOSOPHY,	{ -	John Robinson.
MORAL PHILOSOPHY,	-	Dugald Stewart.
NATURAL HISTORY,	-	John Walker.
UNIVERSAL HISTORY AND GREEK AND ROMAN ANTIQUITIES,	{ -	Alexander Frazer Tytler.
RHETORIC AND BELLES LETTRES,		Vacant †.
DIVINITY,	- - -	Andrew Hunter.
DIVINITY AND ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY,	{ -	Hugh Meiklejohn.
HEBREW AND OTHER ORIENTAL LANGUAGES,	{ -	William Moodie.
CIVIL LAW,	- - -	{ John Wilde and Alex. Irving.
SCOTISH LAW,	- - -	David Hume.

* The late Principal Robertson's Reply to Lord Napier's Address at laying the foundation-stone of the new college.

† Hugh Blair, D. D. lately deceased.

PUBLIC

PUBLIC LAW, AND LAW OF	}	Robert Hamilton.
NATURE AND NATIONS,		
MEDICINE, ANATOMY, AND	}	Alex. Monro, senior, and Alex. Monro, junior.
SURGERY, - - -		
MEDICINE AND CHEMISTRY, -		Thomas Charles Hope.
MEDICINE AND BOTANY, -		Daniel Rutherford.
MATERIA MEDICA, -		James Home.
THEORY OF PHYSIC, -		Andrew Duncan.
PRACTICE OF PHYSIC, -		James Gregory.
MIDWIFERY, - - -		James Hamilton, junior
CLINICAL LECTURES, -		{ Two Medical Professors. by turns.
PRACTICAL ASTRONOMY, -		Robert Blair.
AGRICULTURE, - - -		Andrew Coventry.

Having laid before the reader the preceding meagre and imperfect outline of the history of the Edinburgh university, the author, in closing his remark, is happy to say, that the literary world is likely some time hence to be favoured with more ample information respecting this celebrated seat of education; as he understands that the learned librarian of the college, Andrew Dalzel, M. A. Professor of Greek, is employed in composing, from authentic records, a History of the University of Edinburgh, from its origin down to the present time; with an account of the eminent men who have either flourished as members of the college, or whose productions have enlarged the boundaries of elegant and useful learning. This, we believe, Mr. Dalzel intends for the use of the university, without having as yet formed any design of printing or publishing it.

It

It ought also to be noticed, that among other branches of polite education taught within the precincts of the Edinburgh college, is that of *drawing*. But, what is sincerely to be regretted with respect to this school is, that it is entirely confined to the teaching of a few boys and girls sent thither by the board of trustees for the encouragement of manufactures, &c. in Scotland, and for which sole purpose the honourable board, in 1772, appointed the late Alexander Runciman, historical painter, to this office, with a yearly salary of 120*l*. When Runciman died, the late David Allan, portrait and historical painter, succeeded him; and on the death of Allan a competition took place, when John Wood was awarded the feat. As he had not been bred a painter, doubts were entertained of the specimens being his which he exhibited, when the artists who had entered the lists with him to dispute the prize displayed their exercises in design, as required by the conditions which the board of trustees had printed and published. But, in a fair decision, any after-question would have been vain, and perhaps improper. Accident, however, led to the discovery that Mr. Wood had employed another artist to make drawings for him, which he passed as his own productions. Fully satisfied of the cheat, the board dismissed him from office; immediately on which, Mr. Graham, historical painter, was appointed master of the drawing academy. And now, that a painter of eminence is once more established in so honourable a station, it were ardently to be desired that, instead of a few boys and girls, destined to be damask-weavers, or tambour-workers and embroiderers, the youth educating at the university, as well as others whose inclination might lead them to become professed artists; should

should be admitted students at the drawing academy: This, with a similar institution for teaching the elements of scientific music, or the art of musical composition, would complete that course of the sciences and fine arts, to be gone through at this eminent seat of learning and the muses, for which it was originally designed.

How it has happened that the sister arts, *music* and *painting*, have obtained in so slender a degree north of the Tweed, while oratory and elocution have been cultivated with the utmost enthusiasm, might, if the narrow boundaries prescribed to the present work admitted of the digression, be plainly made appear; but this investigation must be deferred till some future opportunity puts it in the author's power to lay before the public his ideas on this head. Meanwhile, he will briefly state a few particulars with regard to the origin and progress of painting in Scotland, from its first appearance down to the present time.

That, soon after the revival of the arts in Italy, in the middle of the thirteenth century*, and more recently in the sixteenth century, when many of its greatest masters flourished†, the art of design, however rude, reached this island, and even penetrated towards its northern parts, is so well known, as to render an endeavour to establish the point perfectly needless‡. By some
of

* About the year 1250 there came some Greek painters to Florence, who were employed in repairing some paintings; when *Cimabue* was so enamoured of the arts as to become a disciple of the Greeks, and soon surpassed his masters.

† Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael de Urbino, and Michael Angelo Buonarrotti, all flourished in the sixteenth century, the Augustan era of painting:

‡ Robert the first, called by historians "the Bruce," invited artizans from the continent, among whom it is reasonable to suppose were painters. He ascended the

of our historians, painting is mentioned to have been among the accomplishments of James the First *. Be that as it may, his grandson James III. it is well known, was accused of being too much deyoted to the muses, for which indulgence our Scottish historians represent him as governed by favourites, whose obscure origin did not entitle them to become the advisers of a sovereign of a rude, restless, and turbulent people, the high-minded chiefs of whom dared to dispute the supremacy with royalty itself †. “ But James, who both feared and hated “ his nobles, kept them at an unusual distance, and bestowed “ every mark of confidence and affection upon a few mean “ persons, of professions so dishonourable, as ought to have “ rendered them unworthy of his presence ‡.” How the professions of architecture, painting, and music, in the mind of any enlightened historian, can be regarded as *dishonourable*, is not easily comprehended. That some of the best and wisest princes were of a contrary opinion, may be learned from history, to which even the most scrupulous and squeamish sticklers

throne in 1316. Annals of Scotland. See Stat. Acc. vol. i. p. 329, in which mention is made of some fragments of art in A. D. 1400. See also Introduct. to the Scottish Gallery of Portraits, 1799.

* Fordun's Scot. Contin. vol. ii. p. 504. — James I. was born in 1394, and was slain in 1437. Drummond's Hist.

† “ But the sovereignty of James (says a modern biographer) was weak, despotic, and impolitic; and his warm attachment to the arts forms the most pleasing part of his character. His love of architecture raised Cochran to the chief power in the state; and Rogers the English musician was in high favour.” See Pinkerton's Iconographia Scotica.

‡ Robertson's Hist. of Scot.

for

for *honourable professions* must yield. As instances, then : it is known that James III. in his attachment to artists, was by no means singular ; for Leonardo da Vinci expired in the arms of Francis II. of France ; Raphael was to have been raised to the dignity of Cardinal, had not his premature death prevented it ; Rubens, even in modern times, was ambassador at the court of St. James's when he painted the Banqueting-house. The counts and knights whose profession was painting are innumerable, and among the musicians may be reckoned Farinelli, Tenducci, and Parsons, whom what the world call the great honoured, and raised them to rank with the highest classes. So that men of talents of whatever condition may be an ornament to any profession ; and, as a profession is either honourable or dishonourable in the estimation of true philosophy as it is useful or elegant, a man may cease to be the ornament of a profession ; a profession, however, in itself conducive to pleasurable enjoyment, or necessary to the existence of polished society, can never dishonour the man. But to return.

Although the tragical end of James III. threw a damp on the spreading taste for the arts, particularly architecture, in the reign of the succeeding monarch James IV. ; yet his fondness to excess for tilts, tournaments, and carousals, gave a romantic air to all his actions. He delighted in splendid shows, in which the art of design became necessary to lend its creative powers in decoration and ornamental exhibitions in heraldry. The fall of this monarch with the flower of the Scottish nobles in the fatal field of Flouden was felt long and many a day during the minority of his infant successor James V. But, as this high and accomplished prince advanced to riper manhood,

lent artist of the Flemish school, to paint portraits of the Scottish kings, from the first founder of the monarchy downwards, for the long gallery on the north side of the palace. Several of these supposititious portraits are executed in a free, firm, bold manner, not altogether without merit: but, it must be confessed, they are a sorry set of royal portraits truly. It is said, that De Witt was never paid for his labour; a thing by no means uncommon, it happening every day to portrait painters as well as to other knights of the pallet. This artist was also an historical painter.

For some considerable time after the Revolution, the younger Scougal, son of the elder above noticed, was the only painter much resorted to by such as wished to preserve their physiognomies on canvas. Scougal had so much employment, that he grew more careful of money than of reputation: his pictures are poor, stiff, cold, and incorrect*.

To the younger Scougal succeeded *Nicolas Hude*, a Frenchman by birth, and one of the directors of the French Academy; who, on the repeal of the edict of Nantz, in 1685, came over to England as a protestant emigrant, and for some time endeavoured to establish himself in business in London, but with small hope of success. On the invitation of William the first Duke of Queensberry †, he went down to Scotland, and painted
several

* "His carelessness occasioned many complaints by his employers; but he gave for answer, that they might seek others, well knowing there were none to be found at that time in Scotland." *Weekly Mag.* vol. xv. p. 66.

† An animated sketch of this great man, the chief promoter of the Union, is thus drawn by a modern historian: "His disposition and manners were mild, affable, and insinuating; peculiarly adapted to conciliate adherents; and, if incapable of steady application
to

several pictures at his Grace's house at Drumlanrig. In his portraits there is discoverable the mind of a master well acquainted with the higher branches of his art. What renders them peculiarly interesting is, the historical air which he throws over them, by which means a portrait is valuable as long as a trace of the original design remains. In his style and manner he resembles Rubens; and it requires deep knowledge and acute penetration to distinguish between the works of these great masters*.

When the Duke of Queensberry, who was a most liberal lover and patron of the arts, was High Commissioner to the Scottish parliament prior to the Union, John Baptiste Medina, a native of Brussels, (who was the last on whom the order of knighthood was conferred by his Grace,) came down from London, and soon after settled in Edinburgh as a portrait painter. Like the two former, Sir John had been bred an historical painter: but, where the church was enveloped in the sullen gloom of the solemn league and covenant, even the Transfiguration of Raphael would hardly obtain a corner; and in a country where poverty entrenched itself at the very gates of the castle, and with wan visage stood staring in at the palace window, a Leonardo da Vinci could scarcely hope to obtain patronage. Far less, however respectable the talents of latter

to business, he was prudent, cool, enterprising, and resolute; careless or rather lavish of money, and expert in all the arts and intrigues of a court." Laing's History of Scotland, vol. ii. p. 310.

* "Though this painter (says the author of Anecdotes of Painting in Scotland) had merit as an honest man and a good artist, yet it is said he died in straitened circumstances:" God knows, the common fate of honest worth and talents!

painters

painters who practised in Scotland, were they likely to dissipate the cheerless gloom of the one, or divert the imperious necessities of the other; for, although the precious *equivalent* * had about this time been distributed with due liberality among the discarded statesmen, yet the country had little to spare for vain decoration and empty show. Still, however, people wished to have their likenesses portrayed on canvas; and Sir John Medina yielded to this propensity. His portraits are painted with great freedom, precision, and effect. A very fine specimen of this artist's works is in the possession of Mrs. Bruce of Arnot; it is the portrait of Sir William Bruce of Kinross, of which the late Lord Hailes caused Mr. John Beugo, engraver, to make a sketch, with an intention of having it engraved in his series of Scottish Biography. Several of Medina's portraits are in high preservation in Surgeons'-hall, Highschool-yard, Edinburgh †.

One Paton, a contemporary of Sir John Medina, has left behind him some exquisitely finished miniature drawings in black and white. His pieces are rarely to be met with.

About the era of the Union, the arts had taken root in the north; and, sheltered by the great, the genial glow of political freedom, ever favourable to genius, spreading wider and more extended, they pushed forth their branches. That of painting became more vigorous than the rest; and some encouragement was held out to those who, from a love of the art,

* *The Equivalent*, the amount of which was estimated at three hundred and ninety thousand pounds sterling, to be paid by England to Scotland, for the privilege of taxing the latter as the wisdom of parliament might deem meet.

† Sir John Medina died in 1711, and was buried in the Grayfriars Church-yard. Scottish Gallery.

pursued its cultivation. Among the first who went to Italy, to fetch home the choicest twigs from the stocks of antiquity, and others of more recent culture, was *William Aikman*. After his return, on the death of Medina, this artist was employed for thirteen years in painting of portraits, which he executed in a style of such excellence as hardly has been equalled by any of his countrymen since the time when he flourished. In the great hall of the college library of the university of Edinburgh there is a capital-portrait of Aikman's, viz. that of *Carstairs* principal of the college; on each side of which is a portrait by Rhaeburn, one being the late historian, principal Robertson, and the other the late Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Thomas Elder, during whose provostship the foundation of the new college was laid. The patron of Aikman was John Duke of Argyle, by whose persuasion he settled in London; where, after spending the remainder of his life in high practice as a portrait painter, he died in the year 1733*. It has been asserted, that Aikman excelled in painting female charms, more than in giving dignity and character, so essential in portrait painting, particularly in portraying the soldier and the senator. This remark, however, is not well founded; for those of his portraits which are still extant in his native country are stamped with genius, the truth of nature, and freedom of execution. A portrait of this artist, painted by himself, is in the Grand Duke of Tuscany's gallery at Florence.

* The editor of the Scottish Gallery says 1731. Aikman was the friend of Allan Ramsay the poet: See a set of poor verses addressed by him to Aikman, in vol. i. p. 349, and a pastoral, if possible still poorer, in vol. ii. p. 253, 4to edit. Edin. 1721 and 1728. It was perhaps owing to the friendly intercourse between the painter and the poet, that the son of the latter became enamoured of an art in which he afterwards excelled.

Contemporary with Aikman were Richard Wait and George Marshall, both pupils of the younger Scougal. Wait painted portraits, and what is called by the profession *still-life*: thus, for instance, dead game, chairs, stools, are objects of still-life! He excelled in this department of painting, and copied nature with much fidelity, ease, and elegance. Marshall, having first studied under Sir Godfrey Kneller, went to Italy for improvement in his profession; though, after his return, it should seem, he practised as a portrait-painter with but small reputation. He died in 1732.

Italy was at this time the general resort of Scottish painters. John Alexander, a descendant of the Scottish Vandyke, and who seems to have inherited a large portion of his illustrious progenitor's talents, went to Italy in his youth, and spent much of his time in Florence, at the court of Cosmo de Medicis. On returning to his native country, he resided at Gordon castle, and painted several subjects, consisting chiefly of poetical, allegorical, and ornamental pieces. The Duchess of Gordon, daughter to the earl of Peterborough, was a great lover of the arts; and Alexander found in her a liberal patroness. He painted portraits, history, and historical landscape. Many of the portraits of Queen Mary are by him; and it is said that he painted the escape of the captive queen from Lochleven castle, in which the scenery around the lake is introduced; but that he did not live to finish the picture.

Among the copiers of the portraits of Mary were the late John Medina, son of the celebrated Sir John, and — Robertson, an ingenious painter of catoptric. Both these artists were picture-cleaners, and picture-dealers, and both painted, in their youth, with

with tolerable truth and freedom of handling: but their works exhibit little taste or knowledge of their art.

Allan Ramsay, the son of the poet Ramsay, was well known as an excellent painter, though he was, in the language of connoisseurs, a *mannerist*. One of his best pictures is a portrait of Dr. Alexander Monro, the founder of our school of medicine, in the possession of his son Dr. Alexander Monro senior. It is a capital production. Allan Ramsay the painter, eldest son of our Scottish Theocritus, was born at Edinburgh in October 1713. He is said to have had a turn for poetry, but preferred painting, and went to London in pursuit of that art. Having received a liberal education, it excited in him, perhaps, a desire to visit classic ground and the seat of the fine arts: accordingly, in 1736, he set out for Rome, and improved himself in his profession, which, on his return to London, he practised with great reputation. In advanced age he went to France; but, returning to England, he died at Dover in August 1784 *, having nearly completed his seventy-first year, and arrived at an age little short of his ingenious father's, who died in Edinburgh on the 10th January 1758, aged seventy-two years and three months. Thus, the only legitimate Doric-dramatist Scotland hath yet to boast, after having charmed with his pastoral lays and lyric compositions upwards of half a century, left the world (in the person of his eldest son) an artist the ornament of his profession, and a valuable member of society; in the custody of whose descendants, honourable and useful in their respective stations, the poet's and the painter's wreaths remain; and, it is hoped, will never be permitted to fade to latest posterity.

* Reneagle of London and Nasmyth of Edinburgh were pupils of Ramsay.

In the left-hand corner of the print of Allan Ramsay the poet, engraved by *fiercruyffe*, and prefixed to the first volume of his works, printed in 1721, are the letters J. S. P. *i. e.* "J. Smibert pinxit," which is thus marked in the corner of the print of Ramsay engraved by *Vertue*, prefixed to the second volume of his poems, printed in the year 1728. Of this Scottish painter Mr. Chalmers in his life of Ramsay gives the following notice: "Smibert, who drew his first breath in the Grassmarket of Edinburgh, the son of a dyer, was bred a coach-painter: but, travelling into Italy for instruction, he painted portraits, on his return, at London, till he was induced, by the fascination of Bishop Berkeley, to emigrate with him to Bermudas, and thence to New England. Smibert was born in 1684, and died at Boston in 1751*." It was to this artist that Ramsay the poet wrote the letter, dated 10th May 1736, which first appeared in the *Gent. Mag.* for Sept. 1784, p. 672, and was afterward copied into several other periodical publications.

In the Register of baptism (dated the 10th August 1725) of Agnes, Allan Ramsay's fifth daughter, the name of James Norie, painter, appears as one of the witnesses. This ingenious artist had a son, who was likewise bred to the profession of painting, and inherited a liberal portion of that ready invention and freedom of execution so remarkable in the sketches of landscapes of the elder Norie, to be seen in many of the best houses in Edinburgh and other parts throughout Scotland. The profession is still continued in the representative of these celebrated artists (who were among the earliest of our Scottish painters,) Mr. Norie, the principal proprietor of the floor-cloth manu-

* Life of Ramsay, p. xix.

factory

factory carried on in Edinburgh under the firm of *Taylor * and Norie*.

The ornamental paintings and landscapes of *De la Cour* are often confounded with those of the two Nories, as all three executed their agreeable sketches in fresco, and not unfrequently in oil, on the walls, ceilings, and chimney-pieces of houses. *De la Cour* was a Frenchman, and practised in Edinburgh many years with much reputation and emolument.

To *De la Cour* succeeded another ingenious Frenchman, named *Pavilon*; under whom the Runcimans, Brown, and Nasmith were initiated in the rudiments of drawing. But here it is necessary to step aside, in order to bring into one view the state of the arts in North Britain at the middle of the eighteenth century; so as to perceive more clearly their progress from that period downwards: and to this end it is proper to notice the laudable exertions made, about the year 1754, by some enterprising and ingenious citizens of Glasgow for the purpose of establishing an Academy of the Fine Arts in the University of that city.

It will be recorded by future historians, in giving an account of the origin and progress of literature, art, and science in the British empire, that an Academy of the Fine Arts was established in the University of Glasgow fifteen years before the Royal Academy in Somerset House was opened; and that the first capital engraver England ever witnessed, not inferior to Edlinke himself, the late Sir Robert Strange, was a native of North Britain. Even before he left his own country in search of

* Mr. Taylor, an ingenious artist and an honourable man, died some years ago, leaving an amiable young woman, and an infant daughter, his only child, to deplore his loss.

improvement, reputation, and fortune, which eventually he attained in an eminent degree, he produced some specimens of engraving by no means of inconsiderable value.

Glasgow was long celebrated as a seat of commerce, and not less so for its seminary of learning, in which some of the greatest luminaries that have appeared since the revival of literature in Europe were educated: among these may be reckoned Hutcheson, Smith, and Reid, philosophers of the human mind. The art of printing was first practised in Glasgow about the year 1638; and it is observable, that the books which have issued thence, ever since the establishment of its press, have been, in point of elegance and correctness, far superior to those from any other press in North Britain. In 1735, Robert Urie began to print editions of good books in a plain, correct, tasteful manner; and about the year 1740 the celebrated printers, Robert and Andrew Foulis, established the press of Glasgow in a style of elegance before unknown in this country. In 1751, Dr. Francis Hutcheson, whose writings are so much admired for that spirit of benevolence which characterises his philosophical opinions, was called to the University of Glasgow as one of its professors. Struck with admiration at the rising excellence of the Glasgow press, being himself possessed of taste, and universally acquainted with Greek and Roman literature, he conceived the idea of furnishing the learned world with correct and splendid editions of the classics from the press of the University, conducted by two such able and enterprising individuals as he found Robert and Andrew Foulis to be. How far the Glasgow press hath fulfilled the intention of the celebrated Hutcheson, and exceeded his fondest hopes, is well known to the whole world.

Elated, as well they might be, with their success, a scheme, not less worthy of genius, though less profitable to speculation, presented in a point of view the most fascinating to the active spirit of these enterprising brothers. The prosperity of the empire at large seemed to them mighty and rapid in its advance. Witnessing the progress which polite literature and the sublime departments of science had made in the university in which they themselves flourished, and knowing that "for those arts by which manufactures are embellished, and science is refined, to found an academy" belonged to Majesty alone; yet these men, aspiring to the glory of being the patrons of the fine arts in their native country, actually conceived the bold project of establishing an Academy for painting, engraving, modelling, moulding, &c. in the university of that rising, opulent, commercial city, Glasgow.

For this purpose Robert Foulis, the elder brother, went to the continent to collect specimens of art, such as pictures, prints, statues, busts, &c. having previously entered into partnership with certain citizens of Glasgow, in order to enlarge the capital requisite for so bold and arduous an undertaking; and, after two years diligent search for such specimens as were absolutely necessary for establishing an academy of the fine arts, he returned fully resolved on executing his favourite scheme. While abroad Foulis engaged some of the most celebrated men in the different apartments of art; among whom were *Payen* as professor of painting; *Aveline*, an engraver; and two persons of the name of *Torrie*, for moulding and modelling, and casting figures in plaister of Paris. Thus furnished, young men were invited to become students; and the academy was instituted in

in the month of July 1753, and opened the year following.

In the choice of young artists to be admitted students of this academy, genius alone intitled them to the regard of the company; at whose expence they lived, not only during their labours at home, but while abroad in pursuit of farther improvement. Many of these artists afterwards made a respectable appearance in their several professions in Europe and America *. Among the disciples of this academy were Cochrane, Maclauchlane, and David Allan, already noticed. These three, together with two other young men, named Paxton and Maxwell, were sent into Italy, where the two latter died. The three former returned, after having spent several years abroad; and Allan, the late drawing-master of the school in the University of Edinburgh, was perhaps the most successful painter of the character and manners of the Scottish peasantry that ever attempted this style of painting: he also painted portraits and historical subjects †. He resided in Rome nine years; in the course of which he contended for the prize of history painting, and gained it; the first artists, and veterans too, yielding the palm. His *Prova* is engraved by *Conego* in his best manner, and is a specimen of art highly valued by the first connoisseurs. The subject of the piece is the origin of painting, a chaste, classical, and masterly

* The two Stevensons (brothers) went to America previous to the last war; since which period little is known of their history.

† Before Allan went abroad he designed seven pictures, the subjects of which were taken from the popular ballad of *Olney Chase*. His works in aquatinto are well known; but his comic sketches are his best productions. A fond admirer would think them hardly inferior to those of Teniers or of Hogarth.

composition. After having followed his profession with general approbation, he died at Edinburgh in the year 1797.

Maclauchlane was a native of Argyleshire. He possessed all the requisites of an artist. His copy of Raphael's School of Athens, in which Cochrane assisted, is a proof of very promising talents. After a residence of two years in Italy, he returned to Glasgow, but fell into ill health, went to his native place, and died.

George Walker senior, who was also educated at the Glasgow academy, deserves to be mentioned ; not, indeed, that he rose to any distinction as an artist, although his talents as such, and particularly as a drawing-master, were most useful and respectable ; but as an honest man, whose probity and honour, even in circumstances the most trying, maintained their ground unimpeachable and steady to the last moment of his existence. After labouring as a teacher, with great assiduity, for more than eighteen years, his business declined, and at length totally dropped : yet his industry, desire of independence, courage, constancy, and perseverance, never forsook him, even in long and painful illness. Having had from his early youth a strong predilection for chemistry, he directed his attention to that fascinating study : and, after repeated experiments in the making of magnesia alba, he established a manufactory of that article as a trading chemist near Muffelburgh. No sooner, however, did his schemes seem answerable to his wishes, than his illness, which he bore with wonderful patience, rapidly increased, and he sunk under it, in June 1800, sincerely lamented by all who had an opportunity of knowing his virtues as a man, and his ingenuity in whatever he attempted. George Walker first painted portraits ; but after-

wards landscapes chiefly, in water colours. *Robert Paul* was another of the Glasgow academicians who painted landscapes with great taste.

Of the engravers and modellers who laid the foundation of their studies at the Glasgow academy, Mitchel, Ralston, and Buchanan, were among the best: and it merits particular notice, that the first plate executed in Scotland for the manufacture of printed cotton-cloth was engraved by an élève of the Glasgow academy. As a modeller belonging to this institution, *Tassie*, whose imitations of antique gems and medallions have raised his name to such estimation among the artists of Britain, stands forth pre-eminent*. It ought not to be omitted, while exhibiting this hasty, imperfect sketch of the arts, that Gavin Hamilton, one of the greatest historical painters that Rome had to boast, was a native of the near neighbourhood of Glasgow; and to his honour be it recorded, his kind solicitude in behalf of the students of the academy in that city was uniform and lasting. The well-known Abbé Grant, too, was attentive to his countrymen who came recommended to Rome from the academy of Glasgow.

The rest of the history of this institution is marked with circumstances rather untoward. After a vain struggle for existence, it finally closed, soon after the death of its original founders; the younger of whom, Andrew Foulis, died in September 1775; and the elder, Robert Foulis, in June 1776. Their heir and successor being a minor, the company's affairs fell into disorder.

* As a statuary, Tassie displayed, even before he left Glasgow, very excellent specimens of his talents: witness his busts of Livy and Cicero. His likenesses are striking and pleasing performances in his own peculiar style.

Upwards

Upwards of thirty thousand pounds sterling had been expended in support of the press and academy : the latter absorbing the gains of the former, the property became the prey of claimants; what remained was disposed of to every disadvantage, and now hardly a vestige of this splendid institution remains.

To return to where this digression commenced. The two Runcimans, John the elder and Alexander the younger, brothers, as already stated, were initiated in the rudiments of design by De la Cour; after which they went to Italy, where John died. Alexander came home, and painted several excellent compositions, some of which are to be seen above the altar in the episcopal chapel, Cowgate, Edinburgh, and in Pennycuik house in the neighbourhood of that city. He painted landscape likewise with an admirable freedom of pencil. It is thought by many that he was rather fantastical in his stile and manner: but his faults were such as might be overlooked, in consideration of the genius, vigour of intellect, and play of imagination, with which even his slightest sketches are characterized. His brother John was, in the opinion of many judges, the best painter of the two; and it must be acknowledged that this opinion does not rest on a narrow foundation; for his pictures, which in general are either small historical sketches or conversation-pieces, are exquisitely touched: these precious gems, however, are seldom to be met with. Alexander Runciman was the intimate friend of John Brown, of whom the author has spoken in another work; and it is unnecessary to repeat what is already before the public*.

* Sir George Chalmers, who practised as a portrait-painter in Edinburgh, is said to have written the article respecting painting in Scotland referred to in this sketch: it first appeared in the *Weekly Magazine*.

Having brought this slight sketch of the origin and progress of painting nearly to a close, very little remains with regard to this part of our subject, save a few remarks on some attempts formerly made to establish a gallery of arts, or academy for painting after the life, modelling, &c. in the Scottish capital.

A love for the arts, as hath been shewn, has very fully manifested itself in this country since the middle of the eighteenth century. It was the custom, as hath also appeared, for our young artists to go abroad, in order to improve themselves previous to their establishment in the exercise of their profession. Among others who might be mentioned, Messieurs Erskine, Willison, Martin, Rhacburn, Nasmyth, Weir, and Skirving, stand forward as eminent in their several departments. Jacob More, a native of North Britain, the celebrated landscape painter, went to Rome many years ago, and died lately in that city. Mr. Beyers, a Scotoman too, who, though not a professed artist, was yet well known as an acute antiquary, connoisseur, and classical scholar, lived many years in the Roman capital.

On the return of several of our Scottish artists to Edinburgh, about the years 1784, 85, and 86, an attempt was made to institute an academy of the fine arts, which proved unsuccessful. In the year 1791, Mr. Alexander Nasmyth made a second essay, with this difference, that the institution was to be private property, and to be called "*A Gallery of Art*:" it was intended chiefly for lovers of the fine arts, and to diffuse a relish for painting, sculpture, and architecture, throughout the country. This project, however, was coldly received; business increasing on his hands, added to other considerations of a private nature, induced Mr. Nasmyth to allow the scheme to drop. Meanwhile his pupils,
many

many of whom were of the first condition, and not a few possessed of enthusiasm and true talents for painting and composition, made rapid progress in the art; and thus have taste and improvement been daily extending ever since that gentleman's return from the continent to establish himself in his native city, in the year 1784. The last fruitless attempt to institute an academy in Edinburgh for the improvement of the fine arts was made in 1797.

At present there are in practice as artists, in the Scottish capital, several whose talents are truly respectable: among these are Rhaeburn, Graham, Nasmyth, Skirving, Weir, Watson, Walker, Cooper, Saunders, Stewart, Bogle, and Caldwell. The brother of the latter has been long established in London as an engraver. Besides this respectable artist, there are several other natives of North Britain, who served their apprenticeships in Edinburgh, now in high reputation in London; of whom, as instances, Leggate, Birrel, and Thomson may suffice. Of the engravers at present in Edinburgh, Bell*, Beugo, Lizars, Scott, Robertson, Mitchel, Stuart, Summervil, Grant, Douglass, Kirkwood and son, deserve particular notice, as respectable in their several departments; and others might be specified who are coming forward, and who promise, one day, to make a figure as artists. While mentioning the fine arts, the elegant and useful art of penmanship ought never to be overlooked; and who hath not heard of our Scottish Tomkins, George Paton, who as an able artist, for he truly deserves that title, has no equal north of the Tweed; nay, for chaste and elegant simplicity of design, luxu-

* *Bell*, the fellow-apprentice of Strange, rides now in his own carriage. They were bred with Cooper.

riance of fancy, exquisite delicacy in point of touch, and freedom of execution, it is a matter of extreme difficulty to determine whether to the south or to the north *penman* the palm of victory ought to be awarded.

It now remains to say one word with regard to statuary and architecture. As statuaries, William and Charles Gowans and Cummins have produced some very promising specimens of art: and when the names of Adam, Craig, Henderson, Baxter, Bain, and Morison are mentioned, it will readily be granted that Scotland has had, and still can boast of possessing, architects as well as painters and engravers*.

In the further pursuit of our third day's excursion, we hold on through Nicholson's Street, to its junction with the Cross-causeway, immediately at the south-entrance of St. Patrick's square. Here, then, we keep to the left, till we fall in with the Dalkeith road†; and turning to the right, keeping St. Leonard's craigs‡ on the left, we soon reach the turnpike called the Gibbet-toll,

* There are several Scottish architects and painters in London, among whom Charles Smith, Esq. deserves particular notice. A countryman of Smith's, whose name the author does not recollect, ought to have been mentioned; as also Rennie, the civil engineer.

† Leading from the Cowgate-port through the *Pleasants*, corruptly so called from the nunnery of *Santa Maria Placentia* being situated about sixty yards from the south-east angle of the town wall, at the Pleasants-well. Maitland's Hist. p. 176.

‡ Sometimes called *St. Leonard's-hill*, on which were a chapel and hospital, the site of which was converted into a place of interment for the bodies of suicides and of unchristened babes. In former times this hill was wont to be the place for settling all *affairs of honour*; in other words, for murder in single combat, or *duels* in modern phraseology. From the extracts following, it seems that in the early part of James VI.'s reign this kind of *pastime* had arrived at its acme; "22 December (1596) Stephen Brunfield slaine upon Sanct Leonards Craigs, as apeirs, by James Carmichael, second sone to the laird Carmichael." It appears also, that this murder was revenged by Adam Brunfield,

bet-toll *, a little beyond which the county of Mid-Iothian opens to the view. But, although the prospect is not perhaps that which to the eye of a painter would convey an idea of picturesque beauty, yet the scene is so rich in regard to culture, that the heart gladdens and exults in beholding it where formerly thorns and brambles, broom and furze, covered the interstices of brush wood and forest-trees: nay, within the memory of many persons living, the road, which here appears of such breadth, so evenly and so well kept in order, was hardly passable even for horses with creels on their backs, in which not only goods and wares were conveyed, but also manure, and to a very great distance too. Mark what a difference: Great part of the land before us belongs to the barony of Craigmillar, most of which is let on lease for two bolls of wheat, two bolls of barley, half a boll of oats, and nine shillings in money, per Scots acre per annum; equal to 14l. 5s. 6d. sterling this current year †. Most of this tract is what formerly was called *The Borough-moor*, and

Brunfield, nephew of the deceased, who by royal licence killed his man at Barnbogle links. In March 1597, "William Gluffer, and James Hepburn slew ane another at the single combat on the hill called Sanct Leonard's Craigis: the said twa ver burit on the morne yer after," i. e. 12 March. Again, "the 2 of Apryll, being Sabbath day, 1598, Robert Achmutie, a barber, slew James Wauchope at the combat in St. Leonard's hill." This barber was imprisoned, but attempting to break out he was soon after beheaded at the Cross of Edinburgh. See Birrel's Diary, p. 40. 42. 48.

* So called from being the place where the gallows stood. Maitland says, the old gallows was taken down, and a new one erected which cost the town "two hundred merks Scottish money." Hist. of Edin. p. 176.

† Prices in the Haddington market, 27th February 1801; wheat 72s. Barley 55s. and oats 45s.

abounded with oak-trees of a large size; which were cut down, and many of the wooden fronts of the houses built of the same*.

The Borough-moor has often been the scene of bloody skirmishes. In 1513, James IV. reviewed his army on this spot, just before his departure to the fatal field of Flowden †. How and at what period this forest became the common-moor belonging to the inhabitants of Edinburgh is not with certainty known. It appears that great part of it belonged to the nunnery of *St. Catherine of Sienna*, which stood near the south-east of Hope-park or meadows ‡.

By the first turning to the left, off the Dalkeith-road, we proceed to *Craig-millar Castle*, and in the way pass the house of *Priestfield*, the residence of the family of *Dick*, long respectable in this part of the country. The venerable physician Sir Alexander Dick, grandfather of the present owner, as yet a minor, was seven years successively elected president of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. “The respect and weight of
“ Sir Alexander’s character had a just and conspicuous influence.
“ His benevolence of heart, his hospitality, and public spirit,
“ accompanied with the gentlest and most amiable manners,
“ improved by travel, by an elegant classical knowledge, and
“ by an extensive correspondence with many of the most learned
“ and eminent characters of the age, continued undiminished
“ throughout the course of a long and useful life, which he
“ spent universally esteemed and beloved, and finished without

* Transactions of the Antiquarian Society of Edin. vol. i. p. 336.

† Drummond, p. 74. Maitland, p. 178.

‡ Trans. Antiq. Soc. Edin. vol. i. p. 337.

“ pain

“ pain, universally regretted, on the 10th Nov. 1785, in the
“ eighty-third year of his age.”

“ *Quando heu ullum inveniemus parem !* ”

The mansion-house of Priestfield has been erected since the Revolution on the site of the former, which was burned down wilfully by fanatic incendiaries on the 11th of January 1681, while the Duke of York, afterwards James VII., resided in the palace of Holyroodhouse : at that period, Sir James Dick was Lord Provost of Edinburgh †.

Among the eminent characters whose names deserve to be handed down to posterity, are David Malcolme and J. Monteath, both ministers of Dudingston, which lies on the north-east margin of the lake immediately behind Priestfield. The former of these is well known for his curious remarks on the supposed analogy between some of the dialects of the American Indians and of the Gaelic language, in his Letters and Essays published at Edinburgh in 1739. The latter, author of “ *L’Histoire de Troubles de la Grand Bretagne depuis, &c. par J. Monteath de Salmonet,*” is said to have gone to France during the usurpation of Cromwell, under circumstances not very favourable to the clerical character ‡. It was at the time when Cardinal Richelieu was prime minister to Louis XIV. that our licentious parson deemed it prudent to withdraw to the continent as secretly as possible. Having gained access to the Cardinal in order to obtain employment, he was asked by his eminence, to what family he be-

* Transf. Antiq. Soc. Edin. vol. i. p. 341.

† Arnot’s Hist. of Edin. p. 392.

‡ Connected with an affair of gallantry. See Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 378.

longed in the ancient kingdom of Scotland, which for many ages had been in close alliance with the grand monarch's dominions. To this inquiry the prudent Scot (whose father was a poor fisherman in the salmon trade somewhere below Stirling on the Forth) replied with great composure, that he pertained to the ancient and noble family of Montieth of Montieth in the province of Perth. Richelieu, requesting to know farther as to the particular branch of that family, was answered, that he belonged to the Montieths of *Salmon-net*. The Cardinal's look expressed his ignorance with regard to this illustrious branch of the family of Montieth. But the parson's claim to nobility was never after called in question; and he retained the title *De Salmonet*, by which he was distinguished in his literary productions till the day of his death.

On the right, in the midst of an extensive park, we observe the mansion-house of *Cameron*, formerly belonging to the estate of *Craig-millar*, the castle of which is seen immediately before us, on the summit of the hill. At this distance, the free-stone quarry in the face of the height gives a very pleasing and picturesque air to the prospect. We cross *Glear-burn* by a bridge of one arch, and pass by the ancient house of *Pepper-mill**, where a bleachfield for gauze and thread was formerly laid out, the property of Major Ramsay of Whitehill. The mill-lands are called in old writings "The King's meadow." This flat extends pretty considerably on both sides of the rivulet, which has its rise near the foot of the Pentland hills; sweeps through Braid and Blackford hills, by Nether Liberton, Pepper-mill,—

* It was built in 1636, as appears by the date above the door.

enters

enters the ornamental grounds of Dudingston house, where it is made to form many beautiful windings; and, after it issues thence, falls into the sea at Porto-bello on the Muffelburgh road.

We may now turn up the road to Craig-millar quarry, and ascend to the castle, which, dignified in its decay, and magnificent in ruins, in whatever direction it is approached, interests the stranger. The front of this once formidable fortress is toward the north. The rampart wall is thirty feet high, and of proportionable thickness, with parapets and watch towers which encompass the inner court; on entering which, the body of the great tower rising to a very great height, large and stately, presents itself. We ascend this part of the building by a stair-case, from which several apartments lead till we come to the great hall, which, from its appearance, impresses us with an idea of its splendour in times remote, and manners very different from the present. The arms of the *Prestons*, ancient owners of this castle, are emblazoned with those of the relatives and connections of the family, in a rude style, characteristic of the grandeur of feudal vanity. On the south side of the great hall is another spacious apartment, from the windows of which we look down into the orchard. As we ascend to the roof of the great tower, which is covered with flat square stones, we are led into a small apartment situated under the south-east turret, in which it is said the unfortunate Queen of Scots was wont to sleep, during her residence in Craig-millar castle, after her return from France, where the sweet moments of her youth and beauty glided so swiftly—never to return!—and here too, ruminating on the libertine-conduct of the faithless Darnley, she spent some gloomy weeks after being delivered of her only child, the fruit of this

unhappy connection, during which time the celebrated conference regarding a divorce was held, in which the secretary Maitland, and the earls of Argyle and Huntley, pressed the matter so eagerly*.

From the top of the battlements, a comprehensive survey of the surrounding country is commanded. Looking toward the south, the extreme distance is bold and extensive, composed of the mountains that separate the southern section of Great Britain from the northern. Nearer, in the middle distance, is the great valley which runs across the Lothian, watered by the South and North Eiks. Still nearer the eye, the estates of Drum, Gilmerton, and parts adjacent, are seen; and beneath the height on which the castle is situated, *Little France*, where the French servants who accompanied Queen Mary to Scotland resided, is beheld, nearly in the same state in which it was when this small village was thus named, from the circumstance of Mary's French domestics inhabiting these humble dwellings.

Turning toward the west, Blackford, Braid, and Pentland hills, compose the bold features of this point of view. Looking northward, we behold a rich and highly cultivated country, beyond which Edinburgh, Salisbury-craigs, and Arthur's-seat, form the leading objects of the scene. Towards the east, the mouth of the Frith of Forth, the shores of East Lothian, the coast of Fife, the bays, laws, and head-lands on either side the Bass and the island of May, and beyond them the ocean as far as the eye can perceive, are seen at one glance from the spot on which we stand.

* See Keith, p. 355.

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J. M. Campbell.

Ruins of Craig-miller Castle

London: Published March 1. 1812. by M. G. Thompson. 18. R. 1812. 1812. 1812.

EDINBURGH.

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Descending into the orchard, which is behind the castle, we command a fine view of this stately ruin. The trees which surround it are aged, respectable, and shapely, adding dignity and picturesque beauty to the scene. It is, from almost every point of sight, highly adapted to subjects for landscape painting, but especially when all its wooded honours are brought into the picture, of which, it is hoped, avarice will not venture to rob it.

To enter into the history of Craigmillar castle would be to little purpose. Suffice it to say, that the particular era of its foundation is unknown; on the gate there is an inscription bearing date 1427. John earl of Marr, a younger brother of James III. was, in 1477 confined in this stronghold. James V. had frequent interviews here with his mother, the sister of Henry VII. during his minority, while under the power of the crafty and ambitious Angus. James, who was fond to excess of the chase, erected a hunting seat a short distance from the castle on the north west side of the village of Bridge-end, in the forest then called *Drumfelch**; some vestiges of which are still to be seen near the spot, particularly a stone fixed in the wall of the farm-house of the village, on which appear the initials of that prince with some other rude sculpture. Near to this hunting-house stood a small chapel, which, like that at Craigmillar castle, while the roof remained on either, was converted into stables.

On the east side of Craigmillar stood another chapel, dedicated once to the holy virgin; namely, the chapel of Niddry-

* *Drumfelch*, most likely from *Drum*, a height, and *Seilg*, hunting, two Gaelic words, signifying a hunting forest, which the country around Edinburgh appears to have been from the time of David II.

marshal.

marshal. But hardly a vestige of it is now to be seen, except what is used as the family burying-place of Wauchope. An inscription on the inside bears date 1387. The family of Wauchope have remained several hundred years proprietors of Niddry-marshal; and, at different periods, many individuals of this family have distinguished themselves as soldiers, statesmen, and divines*.

East from Niddry is the seat of the late Lord Hailes, a man to whose diligence of research, patient perseverance, and strict regard to truth, the history and antiquities of his country are more indebted than to any one who has hitherto attempted to free these from that fiction, misrepresentation, and error into which they seem to have been thrust.

The barony and estate of Craigmillar has passed into various hands. In the year 1212 it pertained to the Craigmillars of that ilk; and in 1374 it fell by purchase into the hands of Sir Simon Preston. Of this family, a Sir Simon Preston was Lord Provost of Edinburgh in 1567; the same in whose house Queen Mary slept on the night of the fatal battle of Caer-berry Hill. About the time of the restoration of Charles II. the castle and demesnes of Craigmillar came into the Gilmour family; and this family having lately become extinct, the castle has fallen into the possession of the present proprietor Captain Little Gilmour, whose father, William Charles Little, of Liberton, Esq. is well known as a learned antiquarian and a man of letters.

We leave Craigmillar castle by the way which leads into the Dalkeith road, and keep to the right for a short distance on the road to Edinburgh, till we come to that which branches off to

* See Trans. Antiq. Soc. Scot. p. 348, 349.

Upper Liberton, through which we keep straight forward till we reach the road from Edinburgh to Peebles; and, instead of going to the left, let us turn our face toward town, and descend to *Liberton Dams*; thence tracing Braid's Burn among the windings of the Blackford and Braid Hills, we shall be highly gratified with many pleasing peeps of nature in detail. On visiting *The Hermitage of Braid*, the solitary wanderer, whom the poet thus addresses,

Would you relish a rural retreat;
 Or the pleasure the groves can inspire,
 The city's allurements forget,
 To this spot of enchantment retire.
 Where a valley and chrysaline brook,
 Whose current glides sweetly along,
 Give Nature a fanciful look
 The beautiful woodlands among.
 Oft let me contemplative dwell
 On a scene where such beauties appear;
 I could live in a cot or a cell*,
 And never think solitude near †;—

will enter into the feelings of the youthful bard in his description of this sweet retirement. Mr. Gordon, the proprietor of Braid, has built a comfortable mansion, the architect of which has given it an antique air well suited to the charms of the surrounding scenery, and the fascinating beauties of this sequestered retreat; to which the admirer of rural wildness steals from the

* It is said, that this spot was at one time chosen by a hermit as a solitude; and, indeed, when the wide and extensive forest of Drumfelch existed, a deeper retirement or more sequestered abode can hardly be conceived. What likewise countenances the conjecture is, that several of the neighbouring fields are called by scripture names, such as Canaan, Egypt, &c.

† "Verses written at the Hermitage of Braid." See Ferguson's Poems.

city to enjoy nature in calm and serene repose. Indeed, one of the chief gratifications derived from Edinburgh as a place of residence, is that of great variety with regard to walks, rides, short excursions into the country, and rambles in the very bosom of solitude, and all within a very short distance of the capital.

It is well worth while to ascend to the top of Blackford hill, from which a fine prospect of Edinburgh, the Frith of Forth, the coast of Fife, the Lomond and Ochil hills, even to the Grampian mountains, is commanded. In ascending from the bottom of the valley through which the rivulet winds, we first reach one summit, and in gaining the next, the heaving into view of the castle, spires, and other buildings of the city, piled in irregular masses, enveloped in the sombre obscurity of its smoke, seems as if all were in motion by the power of enchantment. On obtaining the topmost ridge of the hill, an extent of prospect truly sublime and beautiful spreads out before us. Immediately beneath the north brow, Blackford mansion-house, half hid among trees, and several others near it, of an old construction and aspect, appear on the plain below. One of these, namely, *Grange-house* *, was that in which Principal Robertson breathed his last; whose character as an historian is thus sketched by a contemporary author. “ Less acute, argumentative, and profound, but more correct, inventive, and uniformly elegant, [than Hume.] Robertson aspired to the native graces of the English language, and added the rare praise of laborious fidelity to the palm of history which Buchanan originally conferred on Scotland †.”

* A little to the west of Grange is the Chapel of St. Roque, now a total ruin.

† Laing's Hist. of Scot. vol. ii. p. 360.

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Merchiston House.

Winding by cautious and slow degrees down the declivity of Blackford hill, we descend into *Egypt*, through which, after crossing the river Jordan, we pass into Canaan and other regions of the Holy Land; for thus are the circumjacent fields in the neighbourhood of Braid denominated. We may take a short cut by the farm-house of Egypt to the turnpike road leading to Edinburgh by Borrough-moor Head, Merchiston-house, and thence by Bruntsfield Links, and Cage Walk, into the city.

Soon after gaining the main road, we pass on the left two or three neat boxes, in one of which the late Lord Gardenstone resided. This learned senator of the college of justice is no less worthy of a niche among the illustrious persons whose virtues entitle them to the veneration of posterity, than of the sacred name of *patriot*, his claims to which can never be called in question; for his whole life was devoted to acts of kindness where no return was expected, and to forming plans for public utility, and of substantial benefit to the community, with which it was his lot to be more immediately connected.

On passing through the village of Borrough-moor Head, where Mr. Steel has long had a manufacture for magnesia alba established, we see to the left *Merchiston-house*, once the residence of Baron Napier, of whom David Hume speaks in the words following: “*Napier of Merchiston*, the famous inventor
“ of the logarithms, the person to whom the title of a GREAT
“ MAN is more justly due than to any other whom his country
“ ever produced*.” “His scientific genius (says another
“ historian) was first applied to the mysteries of the Apocalypse,
“ to gratify the protestants by a plain discovery of the pope in

* Hume's Hist. vol. viii. p. 35, 8vo. edit. 1775.

“ Antichrist : but his calculations of the prophecies have been
 “ disproved by time, and his name has already outlived the
 “ period which his pen assigned for the duration of the world.
 “ His fame is more durably fixed by the logarithmic canon,
 “ the correspondence between arithmetical and geometrical pro-
 “ gressions, a sublime invention of universal utility, the result
 “ of patient and intense meditation. He died in 1617, at the
 “ age of sixty-nine *.”

Approaching Edinburgh by the head of Bruntsfield Links, the city and castle appear pre-eminent and lofty in a peculiar manner ; they seem as if rising amid a forest of great extent, towering in mid-air : the forest, however, is neither vast nor aged ; it is merely the trees which were planted round the meadow, in the middle of which, at no very remote period, was a pool called the *South Loch*, which being drained at the town's expense, (being part of its property,) hedge-rows and trees were planted. These, while they were kept properly in order, afforded shelter to the pasturage of the meadow, and formed agreeable avenues, in which the citizens of Edinburgh were wont to take their evening's recreation. But now these avenues are shamefully neglected ; in consequence, there is no longer pleasure in wandering among broken down hedge-rows, blasted trees, and ditches brimful of stagnant water ; nay, what is still worse, there runs through the very middle of this rich and once beautiful meadow a common sewer—uncovered too !—from which arises in summer an intolerable stench. It is high time that something were done : why delay it for a single hour † ?

* Laing's Hist. vol. i. p. 460, 8vo. edit. 1800.

† The meadow was drained in 1722, and was planted soon after. The pool was called the *Borough Loch*, and sometimes the *South Loch*. Maitland's Hist. p. 173.

On passing through the Links, we observe on the left a building that is erecting in a somewhat antique style of architecture: it is *Gillespie's Hospital*, which occupies the site of the ancient structure called WRIGHT's mansion-house. From the date (1376) which was over the eastern window of the former building, it appears to have been founded in the reign of King Robert the Second, surnamed *Blear-eye*, the first of the Stuarts, who ascended the throne in 1370.

On entering the avenues of the Meadow, the London visitor will be apt to trace some resemblance between this Mall and St. James's Park: but lamentable is the difference indeed! From the middle walk, we strike off into George's Square, thence through Charles Street into Bristo Street, pass by the Merchants' Maiden Hospital on the left, straight on to College Street, thence to South Bridge Street, which leads into the heart of the city: and thus ends our third day's excursion.

The ground to be gone over in the excursion proposed for the fourth day is of too great an extent for a pedestrian ramble; wherefore it will be prudent to go on horseback or in a carriage, and to set out soon after breakfast. The circuit which the stranger is to be conducted is from Edinburgh to Pennycuik, thence, following the course of the river Esk, to Roslin, Hawthornden, Laswade, Dalkeith, Inveresk, Musselburgh, and thence back to the city. This will comprehend a range of somewhat more than thirty statute miles, which, for variety of objects and picturesque beauty, can hardly be equalled in any quarter of North Britain; most part of it, too, is classical ground, a circumstance which,

to the antiquary and lover of history, will render this day's excursion peculiarly interesting.

Leaving Edinburgh through Grange Toll-bar, we keep the road to Roslin, which a small distance beyond Liberton Dams strikes off into the London road by Middleton, to the right, up a pretty steep declivity; on gaining which, and looking back toward Edinburgh, a fine view of that city and the adjacent hills is commanded to great advantage. Ascending, we observe on the right, among the risings of Braid hills, the Tower of Upper Liberton, of a lofty rectangular form with embattlements round its roof. This fortilage is ancient, but no tradition remains respecting its original founder. So early as the year 1453 * it belonged to the Dalmahoyes of Dalmahoy; and afterwards the whole barony of Upper Liberton came into the family of Little, originally citizens or burghesses of Edinburgh, in whose possession it still remains. The founder of the Edinburgh University library, Clement Little, advocate, was of this family. The village of Upper Liberton is situated in a remarkable elevation, truly mountainous. The hills of Braid stretch far to the westward, and are cultivated to the summit of the highest ridges: most of what was but a few years ago bleak, bare, and almost a barren waste, yields the richest crops to be seen anywhere around, though late in the season. There is an uncommonly good cross-road over Braid hills, which is a great convenience to the farmers in the neighbouring districts. The Braid and Blackford hills, to the open country at the foot of the Pentland hills form a fine and free range for fox and hare hunting.

* Trans. Antiq. Soc. of Edin. p. 303.

A little to the south-west of Upper Liberton is the barony of Morton Hall, near the mansion-house of which are several tumuli, by some thought to be of Roman origin. This family residence was built by the late proprietor, Mr. Trotter, in the year 1769. It is pleasantly situated on the face of a gentle slope, well sheltered and finely environed with wood, consisting chiefly of Scottish pines, aged elms, oaks, and fycamores. A little to the westward of Morton Hall is a wooded eminence called *Galach Law*, on which a belvidere is erected. It was near this spot that Cromwell lay encamped with an army of sixteen thousand men, before the battle of Dunbar, which was fought in 1650*. The remains of a small camp, called Oliver's camp, are still visible.

In the reign of James III. Morton Hall was in the possession of Sir Oliver Sinclair of Roslin, the estate of which is at no great distance. The estate of Morton Hall came by purchase into the Trotter family in 1641, the first of whom was a merchant of Edinburgh, and is mentioned as a contributor towards the university of that city. He lived to the great age of eighty-eight †.

Farther to the west than Morton Hall lies the estate of Morton ‡, beyond which the Pentland hills rise in verdant beauty to a considerable altitude. The military Roman way from Tiviotdale to the naval station of Cramond on the Frith of Forth

* Hume's Hist. vol. ii. p. 24. See also Laing's Hist. vol. i. p. 414.

† Douglas's Baronage, p. 206.

‡ A little north-west of Morton is what the country people call the *Cary-flane*, a stone obelisk of about ten feet in height, supposed to have been erected in commemoration of some distinguished Roman; as not far from this spot, on the estate of Comiston, several urns containing ashes were dug up when forming the highway.

traverses the shoulder of the Pentland hills ; and, in constructing the road to Linton, it was carefully preserved in its ancient direction, by the celebrated antiquary Sir John Pennycuik, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, and the friend of our Doric poet Allan Ramsay *.

History has recorded a bloody skirmish that took place on the 28th of November 1666, three years after episcopacy had been restored in Scotland, between a party of the king's troops, commanded by the brutal *Dalziel*, and a handful of the *Covenanted Whigs*, as they were called, who had taken up arms without calculating on the probable fate of their rash enterprise. The immediate cause of this insurrection is said to have sprung from the following circumstance. An old man, whose means were so low as to make him unable to satisfy the fines imposed by the church, was seized by the soldiery, bound, and laid prostrate on the ground, to be instantly carried to prison †. A few of his neighbours, witnessing the piteous sight, felt all the indignation that so shameful an outrage is calculated to excite : their numbers increasing, inspired them with such courage and resentment as suggested the expediency of disarming the soldiers and releasing their aged fellow-sufferer. "To your tents, O Israel!" was heard from hamlet to farmstead, from farmstead to burgh ; and in a few days an armed multitude, consisting of about two thousand persons, drew near the capital. But the gates were planted with cannon, and all entrance was denied

* Transf. Antiq. Soc. of Edin. p. 308. This piece of road was lately abandoned for one farther down.

† The circumstances attending this transaction are too gross for insertion. See Cruikshank's History of the Church of Scotland, vol. i. p. 188.

the insurgents. On their return homeward, however, they were overtaken near the Pentland hills, by General Dalzel, on a plain of small extent called *Rullion Green*, over against which, within a short distance, on an eminence, the General posted his horse and foot. The Whigs, exhausted and dispirited, perceiving the danger of a retreat with so wicked an assailant in their rear, resolved on giving battle, and accordingly began the attack. Proving at first successful, they were inspired with fresh vigour and enthusiasm, and came briskly to the charge a second time. The king's troops were again repulsed, and Duke Hamilton narrowly escaped with his life. At sun-set, however, Dalzel displayed his generalship: he concentrated the foot, flanked them by the horse, and at twilight stole in upon the Covenanters, whose ranks were instantly thrown into confusion and broken: the cavalry rushing in at the same time, a total route ensued. The darkness of the night put an end to the pursuit. Among the slain were two clergymen and about fifty of their deluded followers. The dead were buried hard by the scene of action; near to which, in the village of Pentland, a few of those who still remain faithful to the covenant reside at this day*.

On gaining the height beyond *Liberton Kirk*, which appears on the left, the country on both sides of the river Esk opens

* They are of the sect called *Cameronians*, (a designation still appropriated to this sect and a regiment of the line,) and are the remains of the field-preachers whose founder was *Cameron*, "who with his brother, fighting back to back, obtained an honourable death," at Aird's Moss, the 20th of July 1680. The colleague of *Cameron* was the celebrated preacher of the gospel *Cargil*, who pronounced, in the deep recesses of Torwood, in presence of a multitude of pious fanatics, a solemn excommunication against the king, the royal family, and the privy council.

extensively before us. The chapel of Liberton is of considerable antiquity, being mentioned in the charter of foundation of Holyroodhouse, anno 1128. It is supposed that Sir Thomas Gray, parson of Liberton, is the same who assisted Mr. John Blair, chaplain to Sir William Wallace, in writing the *Life* in Latin, alluded to in *Blind Harry's* metrical romance of that hero *. The last parson of Liberton, but two, previous to the abolition of episcopacy in Scotland, was Ninian Paterfon, one of our Scottish Latin poets. He wrote eight books of Epigrams, and paraphrased fifty of the Psalms of David †; and some are of opinion, that, for elegance of Latinity they hardly yield to Johnston or Buchanan; which is certainly greatly over-rating Paterfon's pieces and paraphrases.

Proceeding onward, we pass on the left, at a small distance, *St. Catherine's*, famous for its well, on the surface of which the healing balm still remains, although the faith in its efficacy hath long since been on the decline. Boethius the Scottish historian, or rather fabulist, gives the following account of the origin of this sacred fountain. St. Catherine was commissioned by the wife of Malcolm Canmore, King of the Scots, to bring from Mount Sinai in Syria a quantity of holy oil. While the Saint was sojourning near this spot, a few drops of the precious balm happening to drop on the surface of the waters of this hitherto obscure spring, from that moment it became blessed ‡. It re-

* History of Wallace, Book 5, Part 1, edition 1758.

† Epigrammaticum libri octo, cum aliquot Psalmorum paraphrasi poetica, auctore Niniano Paterfono, Edin. A. D. 1678. Vide Campbell's Introd. to the Hist. of Poetry in Scotland, p. 126, 127.

‡ Boeth. Hist. p. 6.

mained so even until the reign of our Sixth James of pious memory, who ordered it to be repaired with hewn stone from top to bottom, and a door and staircase to be made for the conveniency of those who might resort hither for the benefit of the unctuous scum from this balsamic fountain. However, after being contaminated by the ruthless fanatics of Cromwell's soldiery, and by them broken down and totally destroyed, notwithstanding the holy pellicle-incessantly appears, its healing virtues are gone, and few but the curious now think it worthy of a visit.

Immediately adjacent to the balm well of St. Catherine, the queen of Malcolm Canmore, St. Margaret, erected a chapel, in which St. Catherine is said to have been buried. No vestige of this chapel is visible. The nuns of St. Catherine of Sienna used annually to make a solemn procession to this well, from their house in the Sheens, near the east end of Hope Park, or Meadows.

A short distance to the south-east of St. Catherine's is *Moredun*, the seat of Gilbert Masson, Esq. This mansion is situated in the midst of an extensive park laid out with great taste. Its ornamented grounds and gardens afford shade, shelter, and excellent fruits. This property at one time belonged to Sir James Stewart, Lord Advocate of Scotland with little interruption from 1692 till 1703, a period the most important, perhaps, of any in the Scottish annals. The estate was then called Goodtrees, which name was changed by its late proprietor Stewart Moncrief Esq. one of the barons of his majesty's exchequer. A lime-stone quarry, on which are several draw-kilns, extends from west to east along the face of the hill above Moredun. On

the top of this eminence is the village of *Gilmerton*, famous for its coal mines and yellow sand pits *.

To the south east of Gilmerton, Drum, the seat of lord Somerville, is situated, the extensive park and pleasure-grounds of which have lately been broken up for agricultural purposes. Here the remains of the cross of Edinburgh were deposited; but such relics seem now to have lost that fond regard which the late noble owner of these demesnes was supposed to have entertained for the fragments which he caused to be removed thither when the cross was taken down in the year 1756. A number of small feus, or feudatory leaseholds, belonging to the estate of Drum are in its immediate vicinity; among them are those of Stainhouse-mills and village, which, before the year 1500, belonged to the Melvills of Carnbee in Fifeshire; as also the Kaims †, St. Katherine's, Southfield, and the village of Green-end, in which, on the banks of a small streamlet, are several very pleasant family dwellings. The North-Kaims was in the possession of Mr. Crawford of Auchinames, the author of "*Tweedside, Bush aboon Traquair, My deary an ye die,*" and

* Gilmerton coal-works were carried on so early as the year 1627. The village of Gilmerton is pretty populous; it contains about 750 souls. It belongs to Baird of Newbyth. *Paterfon's cave*, at the north end of this village, is of curious construction. It was begun and executed by one man, named George Paterfon, a blacksmith, and was scooped out of the solid rock. It consists of several apartments with beds, a spacious table with a punch-bowl of large capacity, all cut out in the neatest manner. There was in the original owner's life time a work-shop and forge, waking-house, and other places convenient. He lived in this cave with his family upwards of a dozen years. An inscription, quaint enough, which Pennant has thought worth preserving, is still visible.

† Contiguous to these are the lands of the Kirland Noll-field and the Craigs; on the latter is a very elegant mansion belonging to Mr. Inglis, merchant of Edinburgh.

some

some other Scotch ballads, replete with that pastoral simplicity, pathos, touching elegance of expression, and tenderness of sentiment, so characteristic of our national song.

After passing St. Katherine's, we fall in with the small village of Burdie-house, or *Bourdeaux-house*, as some imagine it ought to be called, from a supposed residence of some of Queen Mary's French attendants having been thereabouts. Beyond this village is *Straiton*, through which we pass, keeping the right-hand road, that to the left leading to the village of Loanhead. The houses in the village of Straiton are wretched in the extreme.

A little beyond Straiton we get quite into a region of sterility: far to the west, the cheerless level stretches between the Pentland-hills on the one hand, and the brown heath mountain-districts of Tweeddale on the other. In the distance the tower of Pennycuik marks the spot, a little way from which the elegant villa of the Clerks, in the midst of its woods and lawns, is sheltered. On the right, amid a sweetly-sequestered valley, near the pastoral scenery of Ramsay's "Gentle Shepherd," stands the mansion of Woodhouse-lee; a short distance from which there is a small rustic temple, wherein is a suitable inscription in remembrance of our favourite author of this charming doric drama, with whose compositions serious and comic his partial countrymen have for two-thirds of a century been highly delighted; and as long as a relish remains for truth, simplicity, and nature, the poetical works of Allan Ramsay will maintain their value, in defiance of a peevish and low fastidious nicety in criticism*. The late proprietor of Woodhouse-lee, William

* For a circumstantial and particular description of the scenery in which the action of the *Gentle Shepherd* is laid, see Stat. Acc. vol. xvii. p. 597.

judge; but as to the eulogium on his genius and taste, the stranger will not, it is presumed, be disposed to call it in question, after having witnessed the rural beauties, elegance of architecture, and specimens of art to be met with at Pennycuik-house, the paternal inheritance of a race worthy the name of their country; many of whom were distinguished in their day. To this family is related — Clerk, Esq. of Elden, on whose system of naval tactics the British navy has proceeded in all the late battles in which we have proved victorious. Mr. Clerk is also an excellent draughtsman, and has a facility in drawing, nay in engraving too, far beyond the mediocrity of an Amateur*. In short, the Clerks seem possessed of an uncommon share of genius as well as other attributes of intellect rarely to be met with in one family during many generations.

Leaving Pennycuik by the road we came, about three miles on we strike off to the left, which leads directly to the village of Roslin. Near this village, in the year 1302, the Scots under the command of John Frazer and John Cummine, two of the most powerful chiefs of Tiviotdale, totally overthrew the English forces commanded by Ralph Confray, whom Edward had sent to lay waste the northern parts of this island†. The English lay encamped in three divisions on the heath above Roslin. The Scots came upon them suddenly and unexpectedly, surprized the first camp, and carried it sword in hand: the next was disputed with savage fierceness on both sides. The English

* Mr. Clerk has etched with his own hand upwards of eighty different pieces, chiefly views in Scotland; copies of which were sent to *His Majesty*, in whose possession they remain as specimens of the labours of a gentleman artist.

† According to the English historians, *John de Segrave* was by Edward appointed Regent of Scotland.

retreating

retreating to the third and last entrenchment, the consternation became extreme. Hand to hand the conflict was renewed with tenfold fury; and the victory remained with the Scots, who disgraced it by the massacre of the English, who had surrendered prisoners of war. Not long after, however, Edward terribly retaliated, by carrying fire and sword from one end of Scotland to the other; and, as our historians relate, took with him our ancient records, together with the unpolished marble stone now fixed in the bottom of the coronation chair in Westminster-abbey, in which, according to the superstition of the times, the regal fate of the nation was contained*.

On coming to the southern extremity of the village of Roslin, the ruins of the castle immediately appear, and seem to emerge from the bottom of a deep glen, through which the river North Esk is seen winding, tossing itself in the wood, which rises from the brink of the water in form of an amphitheatre of vast magnitude.

We soon lose sight of this scene, and reach the inn; behind which the chapel of Roslin stands. This structure is of considerable antiquity. It was founded in the year 1446, by William earl of Orkney and Caithness, and is still pretty entire. It possesses many beauties in detail, which please the more they are examined. In general, however, they are greatly overrated. On visiting this chapel one is obliged to submit to hear the ridiculous nonsense of its traditionary history; but a free-mason will be able to divine the main drift of the legendary tale. This chapel is ranked among the col-

* Buchanan, lib. viii.

legiate churches, which were "instituted for performing divine service, and singing masses for the souls of the founders and patrons, or other friends *." That of Roslin had a provost, six prebendaries, and two singing-boys. It was endowed by the founder with the church-lands of Pentland. There is, leading from the high altar at the east end of the chapel, an underground apartment, or small chapel, founded by Elizabeth countess of Buchan, the wife of William above mentioned; over the door of which the following passage of Ecclesiastes is inscribed in fair Gothic characters: *Forte est vinum, fortior est Rex, fortiores sunt mulieres, super omnia vincit veritas.*

From the chapel to the ruins of Roslin castle is but a short distance. This fortress must, in rude ages, have been almost impregnable, as it can only be entered by means of a draw-bridge, the height of which is very great. On examining the tottering remains of this stronghold, one is scarcely struck with its magnificence and characteristic features, till we cross the Esk, which sweeps rapidly around the base of the steep peninsulated rock on which they appear mouldering into decay. On the south side of the river, in the face of the height rising immediately above the Bleachfield, and nearly opposite the wooden

* Hope's Min. Pract. p. 113. 526. Keith, p. 113.—"A collegiate kirk (says Spottiswood) is a church built and endued for a society of clergymen incorporate (commonly in a place where there is no episcopal see), consisting of a dean or provost, or other president; and under them, prebends or canons, who have in the church their several degrees, or stalls, where they sit for the more orderly singing their canonical hours. There were of old in Scotland thirty-two collegiate churches, which were of royal foundation, or instituted by some powerful baron: that of Roslin seems to have been of the latter description. The service was regulated as in cathedral worship. Long after the foundation of Roslin collegiate church, there was no diocese nearer than Glasgow or St. Andrew's."

bridge,



Ruins of Roslin Castle

London: Published March 1, 1803, by J. & J. Thompson, 13 Rue, St. Martin's Lane.

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bridge, a fine view of the chapel, castle, hanging cliffs, and wooded precipices, with the river winding through the deep valley beneath, is seen to admirable advantage. Proceeding along the face of the bank farther into the wood, and nearly opposite to the back part of the castle, another view is commanded, in which the peculiar situation of this fortress appears more remarkable. Far beneath our feet the water is heard brawling along its rocky bed. Immediately before us, proudly stationed on its cliffy steep, the walls, grated windows, and frowning battlements and turrets of this castle, bidding defiance to stratagem and prowess, once stood; but now, as if wearied out with the war elements, it seems to claim that protection which its banks and woody cliffs are capable of affording. The venerable ruin, however, is yet likely to uprear its mouldering heaps. Its present owner, it is said, has lately employed an eminent artist to make some sketches, in order to ascertain how far it may be possible to preserve some of the old buildings while erecting a new structure, to which it is intended to give a similar air of grandeur and antiquity with the present remains; by which means the advantage of situation being seized on, and the characteristic features of the ancient fortress restored, the magnificent appearance, as a whole, of the castle and surrounding scenery can easily be conceived.

The precise period of this castle's foundation is not known. In the year 1100, *William de Sancto Claro*, son of Waldernus Comte de St. Clare; one of the followers of the Norman conqueror to England, obtained from king Malcolm Canmore a grant of the estate of Roslin; but whether the castle was founded prior or subsequent to this grant is nowhere on record.

Several of this noble family are distinguished in the annals of Scotland. How the heroic bishop of Dunkeld, William Sinclair, brother of Sir Henry Sinclair of Roslin, rallied the Scottish fugitives, and put to flight the English which infested the sea-coasts of Fife and the Lothian, for which he was called by Robert de Bruce "*the king's own bishop*," was noticed at some length in a former part of this work. In the year 1330, on the death of our immortal Bruce, Sir William Sinclair of Roslin, the friend of that monarch, and of the warrior Sir James Douglas, went with the king's heart to Jerusalem, and fell, together with his countryman Douglas, fighting against the Saracens in Spain. Many still living will remember the late hereditary grand master mason of Scotland, Sinclair of Roslin, one of the old stamp of our Scottish nobility. An admirable likeness of this venerable man, drawn at full length, in the uniform of a Scottish archer, by Mr. John Donaldson, miniature painter, (who died near Islington in the vicinity of London, the 11th October 1801 *,) was about sixteen years ago in the possession of Mr. Daniel Lizars, engraver at Edinburgh. Surely an engraving of such a picture would be a valuable acquisition to a gallery of Scottish portraits.

It is said, that the founder of the chapel of Roslin lived in this delightful abode in great splendour. In the year 1455, the subtle Sir James Hamilton, abhorring the cowardice of the rebellious Douglas, earl of Angus, who, in his attempt to storm the castle of Abercorn, made an inglorious retreat, revolted to the royal party; on which the king, not willing to put confidence in so powerful a rebel, nor thinking it safe to permit him to live at large, ordered him to be conducted to this stronghold,

* See an Account of him in the Gentleman's Magazine, Nov. 1801, p. 1056 *et seq.*
there

there to be kept in close confinement *. In 1456, James the Second erected the village of Roslin into a burgh of barony; after which it became populous and thriving. It is said, that some of the best masons and artizans in Scotland were attracted to this place of residence by the encouragement held out of free houses and gardens, together with a small sum of money annually.

In the year 1544 the castle of Roslin fell a sacrifice to the fury of the English under the command of the earl of Hertford, and is numbered among the fortresses burnt down in that expedition. In 1650 it was surrendered to General Monk†. The modern part of it was rebuilt in 1563.

Roslin is the general resort of the inhabitants of Edinburgh during the summer month when the strawberries are in season. It is incredible what numbers crowd to this scene of sylvan delight, where the heart gladdens at the delicious feast: and, when wearied of ranging among the woods and cliffy precipices of the murmuring Esk, they return but to renew the toil in the song and the dance, till morning dawns; for, before their horses are harnessed, and their curricles, chaises, and coaches are hurled from the court-yard, Phœbus, in full speed along the impurpled pathway of the east, meets them on their return homeward from the rural revels of a Roslin excursion.

This village has lately become, literally, “a land flowing with milk and honey.” Before Bonner the bee-master fixed his residence close by the walls of Roslin castle, when the strawberries were in season this enchanting retreat was absolutely possessed of living fountains of rich and delicious cream: but now that it is converted into the *Hyblæa* of Caledonia, who is

* Buchan. lib. xi.

† Grose's Antiq. vol. i. p. 173.

it that will sigh for the Sicilian mountains, or the more distant valleys of Canaan?

One of the favourite walks, and, in the opinion of many, the most captivating of all, in regard to romantic wildness and luxuriance of fantastic beauty, is that leading from the east end of the chapel of Roslin, along the winding pathways on the north bank of the river, till we come within view of *Hawthornden*, the birth-place and residence of *Drummond* the poet and historian, the ornament of the age in which he flourished, whose labours in useful discoveries, and moral and historical compositions, will ever be prized as bold essays in the very infancy of true knowledge. As a living historian justly remarks, “at a time when the rugged numbers of Donne and Jonson prevailed in poetry, Drummond of Hawthornden gave the first specimen of a rich and melodious versification, and discovered a vein of tender, unaffected sentiment, which succeeding bards have not disdained to imitate. His taste was formed in the Italian school; and he preceded Denham and Waller in the refinement of our numbers; though, like them, his poetry is neither always equal, nor always correct*.”

If the water be low, it will be easy to pass over to Hawthornden; but, should the contrary be the case, it will be advisable, though the distance is considerable, to go round by the wooden bridge below the church-yard of Roslin, and thence down by the road which leads to Hawthornden, Lafwade, Dalkeith, &c.

Hawthornden is indeed a spot where, in a peculiar manner, the sublime, the lovely, and the picturesque, seem intimately

* Laing's Hist. of Scot. vol. i. p. 257.

blended.



See page 100

Sketch of the spot by the Camp

Hathorstone

Engraving by the artist of the spot by the Camp

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blended. It affords an infinite variety of every species of rural wildness. The painter, the poet, the contemplative man, find here scenes suitable to their taste. They have only to look around, and they instantly see that spot which their imagination pictured as most coverable and pleasing.

The birth-place of our poet stands upon the brink of a steep, impending precipice composed of free-stone rock, in part shagged with ivy; and between the crevices, peeping out, violets, daisies, and modest rose-buds, add peculiar loveliness to the pleasing wildness of the scene. In the face of the rocks are seen the openings, loop-holes, and windows of the famous caves or dens in which Alexander Ramsay and many of the youths belonging to families of the first distinction were wont to hide themselves after their depredatory excursions to the English borders. Immediately under the perpendicular rock on which the fortilage stands, are a variety of forest-trees and evergreens, as oak, elm, beech, mountain ash, willow, weeping birch, yew, Scottish pine, holly, and many exotic shrubs, with arbutus, rooted and mantling among chasms, most admirably blended in all the luxuriance of pure, simple, and elegant nature. In this sheltered spot, secluded from every human eye, the power of imagination can present a lively image of Drummond in the moment of inspiration seated in the bosom of his favourite bower. A shower is heard pattering among the trees: it is over. The fragrance it has caused, and the soft salubrity which steals on the sense of smell; the mildness and freshness of the air; the murmuring of the rivulet, clear and reflective; the gentle movement of the living branches; the singing of birds, and the pauses filled by the lowing of cattle among the neighbouring

bowing woods; the bleating of sheep far distant and out of view; with other rural sounds stealing at intervals on the ear; all, all touch and transport the poet to ecstasy. It was to this sweet solitude that Ben Jonson travelled from London, on foot too, in order to pass a few weeks with the poet of Hawthornden: but, as an account of this visit, and of the conversations between Jonson and Drummond, together with some account of the life and writings of the latter, have been given by the author in another work, it is unnecessary to repeat the particulars respecting these in this place*.

By a train of events singular in no common degree, after an interruption of many centuries, the estate of Hawthornden has returned into the possession of the male representative of its ancient owners, the Right Rev. William Abernethy Drummond, M.D. Bishop of Edinburgh †, who at the advanced age of eighty-one enjoys health and (comparatively speaking) strength, and has as complete command of his intellectual faculties as he had in the prime of life. He is the oldest clergyman, though not the oldest bishop, of the Scottish Episcopal church of Scotland. On the west gable of Hawthornden-house is the following inscription, placed immediately over a seat which commands a fine view of the neighbouring country: "To the memory of Sir Laurence Abernethy of Hawthornden, second son to Sir William Abernethy of Salton, a brave and gallant soldier, who at the head of a party in the year 1338 conquered Lord Douglas five times in one day, yet was taken prisoner before sun-set. Ford. Lib. xiii. cap. 44." And, "To the

* See Campbell's Hist. of Poetry in Scot. p. 84—97.

† For some reasons of a private nature, the bishop has lately resigned his charge.

memory of William Drummond, Esq. of Hawthornden, Poet and Historian, an honour to his family and an ornament to his country, this seat is dedicated by the reverend Dr. William Abernethy Drummond, spouse to Mrs. Drummond of Hawthornden, and second son to Alexander Abernethy of Corskie, Banffshire, heir male of the Abernethies of Salton*, in the year 1784.

“ O sacred solitude, divine retreat,
Choice of the prudent, envy of the great †
By thy pure stream, or in thy waving shade,
I court fair Wisdom, that celestial maid;
Here, from the ways of men laid safe ashore,
I smile to hear the distant tempest roar;
Here, blest with health, with business unperplex'd,
This life I relish, and secure the next.”

A small distance below Hawthornden is Polton; and nearly opposite to it is Maivisbank †: on either side of this classic stream are several other sweet though humble dwellings, around which are delightful walks and bowers in the deep bosom of the woody banks of the North Esk. In following the course of this river from Roslin to its conflux with the sea at Musselburgh; a route of about seven miles only, we pass by the house and pleasure grounds of General Lockhart of Lee, Count of the Holy Roman Empire, near which the ruins of Woodhouselee are still visible. The heiress of this patrimony was married to

* It appears, that the Abernethies of Salton were in possession of Hawthornden upwards of two hundred years: it fell afterwards to Douglas of Strabrock, from whom the ancestors of our poet purchased this charming spot.

† There is a green knoll near Maivisbank, not far from which the late Sir John Clark found some Roman antiquities, which are preserved at Pennycuik-house.

Hamilton

Hamilton of Bothwellhaugh, the assassin of the Regent Murray ; and this spot happened to be the scene of the cruelty exercised on this unfortunate lady ; which barbarous treatment, it is said, prompted her husband to seek revenge in the way related in a former part of this work.

Keeping Dryden on the right, we soon come to the village of *Loanhead*. From thence to *Lafwade* is little more than a mile. This latter village is pleasantly situated on either bank of the North Esk, the approach to which affords some good hints for sketches in landscape composition. There are barley and meal mills, five paper mills, and two bleachfields, in or near this populous village. There is also an excellent school, delightfully situated on the water's edge, at which every branch of useful education is taught on terms very moderate. As a feminary eligible for children whose parents wish them to enjoy the benefit of country air, and at the same time to be instructed in the first rudiments of learning, Lafwade school may be warmly recommended. The banks of the Esk about this village are well adapted to the cultivation of strawberries : a Scottish acre is often known to yield, in remarkably good seasons, from thirty to forty pounds sterling in value. The minerals along both banks of the river abound in coal and free stone : the dip of the former forms with the horizon an angle of 65 degrees ; and in some places is nearly verticle. Part of this coal has been on fire for many years ; and, as it cannot be laid under water, there is little hope entertained of its extinction.

The ascent from Lafwade is pretty steep : on arriving halfway up the eminence, we strike off to the left, which leads to Dalkeith, the road to the right leading by *Dalhoufie*

castle *, and *Temple* † to Middleton, the first stage from Edinburgh to London.

We pass on the left the gate of *Melvil-castle*, pleasantly situated close in upon the water's edge; above which, the north bank of the Esk, beautifully wooded and gently sloping, affords a comfortable shelter to this elegant mansion. It is the property of the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, late Secretary of State, &c. &c. Tradition says, that Queen Mary wished to bestow the house and lands of Melvil (then belonging to Secretary Melvil) on her upstart favourite David Rizzio, whom Mr. Dundas's late learned friend characterizes in the following passage: "The low birth and indigent condition of this man (Rizzio) placed him in a station in which he ought naturally to have remained unknown to posterity: but what fortune called him to act and to suffer in Scotland, obliges history to descend from its dignity, and to record his adventures. He was the son of a musician in Turin, and, having accompanied the Piedmontese ambassador to Scotland, gained admission into the queen's

* The castle of Dalhousie, the family seat of the Earl of Dalhousie, is situated on the north bank of the South Esk (which runs nearly parallel with the South Esk, and joins it below Dalkeith). It was a structure of considerable antiquity: and still, though modernized, it preserves somewhat of its Gothic aspect. The grounds around it are laid out with much taste. Arncliffe, the seat of the present Lord Advocate, is a few miles up the water, the ornamented grounds of which are much admired by all who visit the place. In the neighbourhood of Dalhousie are bleachfields and spinning mills.

† At the village of Temple there is a mill for the manufacture of gunpowder, the first of the kind in Scotland. This village has its name from an establishment which the Redcross Friars, or Knights Templars, had in it. At the suppression of religious houses, the lands here belonging to the order were granted to George Lauder of Bas. Keith, p. 226. 269.

“ family by his skill in music. His servile condition had taught him suppleness of spirit and insinuating manners. He quickly crept into the Queen’s favour, and her French secretary happening to return at that time into his own country, was preferred by her to that office. He now began to make a figure at court, and to appear as a man of weight and consequence,” &c. The whole of this beautiful passage is striking, but too long for insertion in this place; therefore the reader is referred to the third Book of Robertson’s History of Scotland, on which, after reading, he may ruminate at his leisure, and draw whatever parallel he pleases.

From Melvil-castle to Dalkeith is little more than a mile. *Dalkeith* is a market town of some consequence. Its population amounts to 4366 persons, among whom are six medical practitioners, five clergymen, thirty-six bakers, five hairdressers, seventy-seven masons, besides shoemakers, weavers, tailors, dyers, gardeners, butchers, grocers, cloth-merchants, hardware merchants, &c. In short, Dalkeith is as thriving and industrious a country town as any to be met with north of the Tweed. Its grammar-school had the honour of initiating the celebrated physician Pitcairne in the elements of classical learning; at which period it was considered the first Latin school in this part of the island: and many persons of great eminence in the various departments of the church and state, in civil and military stations, during the greater part of the eighteenth century, received their early education at Dalkeith. Besides the grammar-school, there are four or five other schools for teaching to read, write, cast accounts, &c.

But among the chief allurements to strangers are, the extensive deer-parks, woods, and ornamented grounds of Dalkeith-house, the usual residence of the family of *Balcleugh* *, who, it is but justice to say, (the female branches in particular) are an ornament to the Scottish nobility in all that is amiable and truly virtuous; which is what ought ever to characterize the Corinthian capital, as a late eloquent author expresses it, of the privileged orders of society. Possessing a princely income, this family know how to lay it out to that advantage which benefits the community at large. They are charitable to the poor, and liberal in their intercourse, in whatever it regards. They possess a taste for the fine arts; and to elegant literature is devoted that dignified ease and serene leisure of which the exalted sphere in which they move secures the enjoyment.

The pleasure-grounds of Dalkeith-house are kept in excellent order. Nature is seen in all her native loveliness on the banks of both the Esks, which form a junction in the great deer-park about half a mile below the bridge lately thrown over the South Esk, within sight of the palace. This bridge is one of the handsomest to be seen any where; it was erected by the Duke at a very considerable expence, and will prove a lasting monument of his taste in architecture. In the palace are many capital paintings, among which are some landscapes by Claude Lorrain, Vernet, Nasmyth, and Williams: there are also some valuable portraits. A few good paintings were destroyed when Seton-house was burnt a few years ago.

The modern palace of Dalkeith was erected, about the beginning of the eighteenth century, by Anne Dutchess of Buccleugh

* Or, as it is now pronounced, *Buccleu*.

and Monmouth, on the site of the ancient residence of the family of Morton ; one of whom, after ruling Scotland with a rod of iron, ended his career on a scaffold. From the Morton family, the estate of Dalkeith came by purchase into the possession of the family of Scott, with whom it remains.

At a small distance from Dalkeith, most delightfully situated on the north bank of the South Esk, is Newbattle abbey, the seat of the Marquis of Lothian : into this family the estate came from *Mark Ker* (a son of Sir Robert Ker of Cessford), last abbot of this monastery, in whose favour it was erected into a temporal lordship in 1590*. The present house, which is handsome and commodious, is built on the site of the abbey, which was founded by David I. in the year 1140. The monks were from Melrose abbey on the Tweed. In the apartments of this house there are several excellent paintings, among which are some valuable portraits, a part of which have lately been beautifully engraved, and are to be found in Pinkerton's Scottish Gallery, a work, though disgraced by several wretched portraits, of great merit both with regard to engravings and biographical notices : and it is daily rising in value as a national repository of rare and curious information, as well as of ancient and modern specimens of art. In the library of Newbattle house are several ancient volumes, written upon vellum in the Saxon character, and embellished with curious devices in the fashion of the times, which belonged to the monks of this abbey. The chartulary is in the lawyer's library of Edinburgh, to which frequent reference is made. In the great park in which Newbattle abbey

* Keith's Catalogue, p. 255. Stat. Acc. vol. x. p. 216.

is situated are several aged trees, some of which are of remarkable size. One of them, a beech, measures more than six feet in diameter, and is of proportional height.

From Dalkeith to Inveresk and Musselburgh is about three miles. On permission being asked, the stranger rarely fails of obtaining leave to proceed through the park, which is one continued series of sylvan beauty and rural loveliness from its western to its eastern extremity. Thence proceeding along the road to Inveresk, we leave *Carberry-hill* on the right. On the top of this hill the unfortunate queen Mary sat on a stone in the midst of her faithless troops, and in the face of her rebellious subjects in arms, while the dastardly Bothwell, her worthless husband, abandoned her to her fate, and rode off the field to his castle of Dunbar, never to return. The sequel, which involved Mary's loss of liberty, and eventually her death, is sufficiently known. When this princess was an infant of five years of age, the field beneath this eminence was the scene of that terrible overthrow which the duke of Somerset gave the Scottish army, which, but for the folly of the lord protector, in amusing himself with burning castles and castlets, and laying waste the country round Edinburgh, and thus neglecting to follow up his victory, must have proved fatal to Scotland. One effect, however, the battle of Pinkie (as this defeat is called) most certainly had, that of uniting Scotland and France more intimately than ever; for not long after the infant queen of Scots was sent to the French court to be educated, where she rose to be the first personage of that celebrated nation.

On entering the village of *Inveresk*, one is charmed with its delightful situation. The salubrity of its air, the command of
its

its walks, and its pleasant and extensive prospects, are inducements sufficient to allure persons of independent fortune to fix their residence near this gentle eminence, which rises with easy acclivity from the margin of the South Esk, that here sweeps in a noble bending round the lower fields and meadows belonging to the village. Immediately adjoining Inveresk is *Musselburgh*, a market-town of considerable antiquity; for the description and history of which the reader is referred to the sixteenth volume of Sir John Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland, parish of INVERESK, wherein the learned author, the Rev. Dr. Alexander Carlyle, (the friend of the author of *Douglas* a tragedy,) has displayed no common degree of research and elegance of composition.

From Musselburgh to Edinburgh is about five miles. There is nothing remarkable to be met with on the way, till within a short distance of the city, when a most striking view of its peculiar situation is seen to great advantage.

Having conducted the stranger through the various parts of the tour sketched out in the preceding sheets of this work, it remains for the author to throw out a few cursory hints, loose and slightly connected, with respect to society and manners in the Scottish capital and its immediate vicinity, during the greater part of the eighteenth century, from about the era of the union till the present time.

If a residence in Edinburgh of more than thirty years standing, and, during the greater part of that time, an attentive observation of what passed before his eyes, together with a steady intention of delineating with truth, and as much impartiality as the weakness of human nature will admit, are requisites

requisites indispensable to the faithful discharge of the duty which the author imposes on himself, he is hopeful that these may entitle him to that degree of credit which experience and observation always carry along with them in the display of living manners, in regard to their origin, progress, decline, and change into others, sometimes similar, and sometimes the very reverse of the former. For what happened in these respects previous to his own capability of forming a clear perception of the customs and habits of his countrymen, he must rely on the testimony of such authority as hath been deemed authentic: he will likewise have occasion to appeal for the justness of his remarks to enlightened cotemporaries, whose ideas and observations on the various topics which shall be touched on in the course of our speculations are already before the public; to the end that not only the present generation may form a just estimate of the progress of civil society in the Scottish capital during the greater part of the last hundred years, but also that posterity may know how much they are indebted to the labours of an enlightened age, in which some of the first characters that have appeared on the great theatre of the world have essayed to model and give a higher polish to society and manners than hitherto, in any equal portion of time, marked the progress of civil refinement. And, if it be true that a capital contains an epitome of a nation, the Scottish capital, it will be allowed, must have exhibited a characteristic portrait of the manners and state of society north of the Tweed at the critical conjuncture when both nations were united and incorporated into one general mass, soon after the commencement of the eighteenth century; since which era the approximation and similitude of manners have been

been in the constant ratio of the mutual intercourse of the inhabitants of the southern and northern sections of Great Britain. In order, therefore, to illustrate the truth of this obvious fact, the following *Comparative View of Society and Manners in Edinburgh, at the beginning, the middle, and the close of the Eighteenth Century*, is, with due deference, submitted to the candour of the present and future enquirers into this interesting subject.

The extreme distress and consequent despondency occasioned by the total failure of the Darian scheme conjured up an evil train of the unkind treatment and manifold injuries which the inhabitants of the northern section of our island had experienced from the ill-directed policy of those in the executive departments of the government, inimical to the welfare of the sister kingdom immediately prior to the Union. Hence when this grand project came first on the tapis, three fourths of the Scottish nation were hostile to its existence in any shape whatsoever. The adherents of the abjured royal family, called in the cant of the times *Jacobites*, were either seduced or subdued; and, whatever opposition the *Whigs*, as they were termed, might have meditated giving to the measure, the *Union* was at last carried, and the struggle between contending factions ceased for a season. The ancient Scottish nation was represented in a British parliament by sixty-one members; forty-five of whom were to consent to the imposition of an intolerable load of taxes; the other sixteen were to be picked and selected from the sad remnant of the Scottish *noblesse*, decayed and broken down. And yet we are told by a grave writer, that, "*Since the Union*,
 " the commons, anciently neglected by their kings, and despised
 " by

“ by the nobles, have emerged into dignity ; and, being admitted to a participation of all the privileges which the English had purchased at the expence of so much blood, must now be esteemed a body not less considerable in one kingdom, than they have long been in the other *.”—“ But (says another author) the union at first gave such little satisfaction, that, before six years had elapsed, the same party by whom it was contracted, proposed to dissolve it, from the real or imaginary injuries which the nation had sustained †.” At this critical conjuncture then, it will easily be supposed, a very different and dissimilar system of manners and habits of thinking prevailed among the inhabitants of the southern sections of our island ; but, as the prejudices against the union subsided, and mutual intercourse in commercial concerns took place, the way was gradually smoothed for a nearer approach in sentiments and manners, less rigid and national than hitherto had appeared since the great change took place with regard to the weight and consequence that Scotland bore in the political theatre of civilized Europe.

But, as Edinburgh was the scene of public transactions both prior and subsequent to the union, some account of the state of society and manners in that city is indispensable in our survey of that era.

As Edinburgh, even at this day, cannot rank high as a commercial city, far less so nearly a century back ; and as a city, as well as a nation, is wealthy in proportion to the number, ingenuity, and industry of its inhabitants, we find that about the epoch of the union Edinburgh was but thinly inhabited, and

* Robertson's Hist. vol. i. p. 254.

† Laing's Hist. vol. ii. p. 351.

the citizens were neither ingenious nor industrious, and by consequence were poor.

Agriculture was in a wretched state all over the country; even in the near neighbourhood of Edinburgh the quantity of waste land is incredible. The manufactures in that city were next to nothing; and the exports and imports at Leith, the seaport of the Scottish capital, were low in the extreme, by reason, chiefly, of the newly-formed connection of England and Scotland, when the latter was excluded from participating in the colonial trade of the former.

Where trade is low, excise laws, if rigorously enforced, become irksome and oppressive. Hence arose that disgust and hatred which the inhabitants of Edinburgh were at no pains to conceal when the Board of Excise was established in that city. But at first they vented their spleen in words only.

Soon after the Presbyterian form of church government was grafted on the tree of civil establishment, Popery being vanquished, and Episcopacy laid low, the rigid austerity assumed by the *church triumphant* gave a sombre hue to every thing within the circle to which the shadow of this newly-erected temple reached. The priests who served in this *holy of holies* were filled with abhorrence of all manner of entertainments, whether innocent or otherwise. Their congregations, of course, were inspired with a lively dislike of the world, the flesh, and the devil. Moreover, as they came to the knowledge, by means of repeated trials and burnings for witchcraft, that Satan was fond to excess of fiddling, piping, and dancing, they deemed it worse than blasphemy to go to a little innocent hop, or to stage-plays, the very service in which *Auld Hornie* delighted most.

most. We have already seen what effects such sentiments as the rigid presbyterians entertained about this time produced on the public entertainments of Edinburgh.

But there were other classes of inhabitants, whose religious opinions and forms of worship and church discipline were less rigid, yet whose ideas of moral rectitude were not less in concord with the immutable canons of right and wrong, truth and untruth, justice and injustice, who, wanting that religious enthusiasm by which their brethren of the newly-erected church eminently distinguished all their spiritual transactions, suffered the civil establishment of their religion to be supplanted, while the gay allurements of sublunary enjoyment proved too powerful for the willingness of the spirit, the flesh being weak. It is needless to say, that the party alluded to were the Jacobites of the Scottish episcopal persuasion, many of whom were poor gentlewomen, whose fathers, uncles, brothers, and male cousins, had little more to recommend them, than an agreeable person, a smattering of Greek and Latin, and rarely a little Low-Dutch, or German, French or Italian: they had, however, a superabundance of family importance, which gave an air of supercilious dignity to all their movements, together with an intolerable share of silly and insignificant vanity (for pride it could never be called), which strongly marked those sort of people, "*who (as Fletcher of Salton says) are all gentlemen, only because they will not work* *." The morose presbyterians, whose fathers had suffered in the cause of religion and liberty, by means of the persecuting spirit of accursed prelatie vindictiveness, and the blood-

* See "The Second Discourse on the Affairs of Scotland." Fletcher's Political Works.

thirsty disposition of the rulers of the times of the two Charleses, and of James, the greatest tyrant of the three, hated from the bottom of their souls whatever favoured of popery and her illegitimate sister prelacy, and every source of rational entertainment in which the individuals of the two latter persuasions seemed to delight.

Hence we see the origin and chief cause of the continual dislike which, till within the last fifty years, subsisted between episcopalians and presbyterians in the metropolis of the north; and how the jarring of civil and religious opinions affected their sentiments and manners may very easily be made to appear.

The manners of the episcopalians being more lively and seducing, many among the higher ranks of the presbyterians, fascinated by the gaiety, urbanity, and elegant familiarity of the party whose religious and political opinions they held in abhorrence, wished for the moment to forget that so essential a difference was an eternal bar to that mutual confidence which is the bond of union in civil society: but an event soon happened which shewed clearly how little good faith was regarded in the social intercourse, where political and religious principles differ so widely, and where the designs of an ambitious individual become the main spring of action, even in the very bosom of joyous hospitality.

An attempt to seize Edinburgh by surprise, by about fifteen hundred men commanded by Brigadier-general Macintosh, in the name of the abjured British monarch James VII. gave for a time a death blow to all intercourse between the *true blue* Presbyterians and the true blue Jacobites of the Episcopal persuasion.

But

But this rash enterprise proving fruitless within three months after its emerging into view, about the latter end of December 1715 tranquillity was restored throughout the country; and Edinburgh remained undisturbed till the year 1736, when a remarkable event took place, which marked indelibly the discontented spirit of the times more than any thing prior to or since that period. Before entering, however, on the particulars of this affair, let us observe the prevailing manners about the time when it took place; by which means we shall be able in some measure to account for the predominant sentiments of the lower and higher orders of the people, in so far as they regarded that singular air of mystery and inviolable secrecy with which the conspiracy in question was attended.

In the year 1718 the Town Council of Edinburgh settled an annuity of 300*l.* on the chief magistrate during his office, in order that he might with becoming propriety maintain that decent and respectable appearance which his station among his fellow-citizens required. Prior to this, no sum whatever was allowed out of the town's funds for this purpose; and the expences of the office were defrayed by perquisites derived from leases and lucrative employments in the gift of the Town Council. But no sooner had the chief magistrate been put beyond the reach of dependence and low means to support the dignity of his office, than, in conjunction with the presbytery of Edinburgh, they denounced their fellow-citizens as abandoning the paths of true godliness, and as being in the inordinate indulgence of "vice and immorality, particularly horrid cursing, and swearing, breach of the Lord's day, drunkenness, uncleanness, mocking at religion and religious exercises, contrary

"The behaviour of the last age (says another author) was very reserved and stately. It would now be reckoned stiff and formal. Whatever it was, it had certainly the effect of making them more respected *."

About this period too, the young ladies, besides receiving a pretty liberal education, were all bred good housewives; and it was no unusual circumstance for the families of wealthy citizens to appear at church and market in the woollen and linen cloths spun in their own houses, at which the mothers and daughters assisted. The men, however, were less industrious than the women. Poverty, and its usual concomitant idleness, seemed as yet the inheritance of the Scots. The wealth with which their shores abounded, and which the Dutch fishers accumulated in their own coffers, lay as much neglected as if no such mine, no less inexhaustible than valuable, was even known to exist.

By this time the citizens of Edinburgh, in common with their fellow-subjects through North Britain, began to feel the pressure of taxes, which their connection with England as an united kingdom had drawn upon them; and a circumstance, which forcibly marks that dislike which became strong and general, took place while Caroline, the Queen Regent, (in absence of her husband George II. who was gone to his paternal dominions in Germany,) held the reins of government with a firm and powerful arm.

The inhabitants of Edinburgh, when they assembled in a tumultuous manner, seldom failed of accomplishing the design they intended; and this is true with regard to what is usually called the *Porteus mob*. While the tumults occasioned by the

† See "A Father's Legacy to his Daughters."

unpopularity of the malt-tax * were raging with the utmost fury in other parts of Scotland, the Edinburghers remained silent yet fullen spectators; till at the execution of Andrew Wilson, a notorious smuggler, from among the crowd of spectators, who greatly sympathised with the unhappy sufferer, as he lost his life in a case that was hardly deemed criminal, a few boys began to pelt the hangman while in the exercise of his duty. The officer of the city guard, who headed the party that surrounded the scaffold, thinking to make the boys desist, directed his men to prime and load with ball cartridge; but the mob, far from intimidated, becoming more tumultuous and daring, Captain Porteus (the officer on duty) ordered his men to fire at random; by which means many of the mob fell, some being killed on the spot, and not a few badly wounded, among whom were several persons of condition, who had taken their stations at windows, and were in no manner concerned in the riot.

Porteus was arrested, brought to trial for the murder of his fellow-citizens, and condemned to be hanged: but being recommended to mercy, Queen Caroline, exercising the peculiar privilege of royal power, extended her clemency so far as to grant him a reprieve. "Whosoever sheds man's blood (says the inspired writer) by man shall his blood be shed." In the dead of the very night previous to the day which had been appointed for Porteus's execution, a number of men disguised in women's clothes with great deliberation disarmed the city guard, barricaded the town's gates, set fire to the door of the prison, seized the person of Porteus, led him to the spot where

* All taxation, properly speaking, is unpopular, as it deprives the individual of so much of the fruits of his labour without a visible benefit.

he had ordered his men to fire on his defenceless fellow-citizens, allowed him time to recommend his soul to mercy, (which was more than he had done to those whom his rashness had hurried into eternity,) broke open a shop in the Grass-market, and took from it a piece of rope for his suspension, left the money on the counter, put the cord about his neck, threw the end of it over a dyer's pole, hoisted the unhappy man, secured the rope, and left him there suspended. During the time this horrid scene was acting, hardly a whisper was heard; the whole affair being more like a conspiracy than the casual effect of a momentary resentment; and every attempt to discover the perpetrators or abettors of this summary but illegal proceeding proved fruitless*.

When the news of this outrage reached St. James's, Queen Caroline vowed vengeance against Edinburgh, and was heard to say, in the first paroxysm of her indignation, that she would make Scotland a hunting-park. This being told to Argyle, he is said to have remarked, that if her Majesty persisted in her resolution, it was high time for him to hasten down, and gather his greyhounds. The hunting-match, however, was deferred till nine years after, when the grandson of the abjured king rashly attempted to replace his family on the English throne; to frustrate which, a German huntsman with his chasseurs, penetrating the inmost recesses of our forests, occasioned sad havock among *human game*. The disasters of this period (1745) made a deep and lasting impression on the minds

* The author has often conversed with one man who was known to have been concerned in this murder: he always appeared melancholy, and seldom opened his lips. He died in the year 1779.

of the inhabitants of Edinburgh, and once more shewed them how little reason there existed for mutual confidence in each other when put to the severest of all tests, that of an attempt to overthrow an established form of government, which professed to maintain inviolate civil and religious liberty.

But the moderation of the citizens of Edinburgh at this critical conjuncture will ever remain a memorial to their honour. Suspected of having a partial regard for the exiled chief of his name, Stuart, the first magistrate of the city, was brought to trial for neglect of duty, misbehaviour in public office, and violation of the trust and duty of his office, it being alleged that the victorious army of Prince Charles Edward had gained entrance into the capital without the smallest opposition. However, after a trial of unprecedented duration *, the chief magistrate was, by a respectable jury of his fellow-citizens, unanimously found *Not guilty*, to the no small disappointment of the ruling party.

From Michaelmas 1745 (the usual time of year for electing the municipality) till January 1747, the city of Edinburgh was without a civil government, owing to the anarchy which prevailed in that city when the rebels were masters of it, and during the delays in the case of its chief magistrate. But application being made to the fountain of honour, power, and good government, the king was graciously pleased to order the burghesses of his ancient city of Edinburgh to resume their rights, so that a municipality of *sound and unequivocal* principles might rule, who abjured the pope, the pretender, and the devil. This was the more necessary too, because this municipality,

* It lasted ninety-four hours.

consisting of *thirty-three* individuals, possesses the exclusive right of sending a person to the House of Commons, who is said to represent the metropolis of North Britain, containing upwards of a hundred thousand inhabitants, in the imperial parliament of the British isles. The first act of the newly-created magistracy and newly-elected office-bearers was, to address their beloved sovereign on the suppression of the rebellion ; and, in token of their profound esteem and lively gratitude, they presented the duke of Cumberland with the freedom of the city in a superb gold box, accompanied with a suitable complimentary address, richly interlarded with expressions of great regard and exalted admiration.

The Scots, at length, seeing every well-grounded hope of freeing themselves from their connection with England as an united commonwealth, and the fond wishes of the Jacobites of restoring the exiled family of Stuart to the British throne, vanish into air, quietly submitted, conscious, at least, of having to the utmost of their power repeatedly attempted to accomplish both these ends, by means, it is true, not calculated to insure, or even promise, eventual success ; and the inhabitants of Edinburgh, when the keen edge of party spirit was blunted by time, and mutual confidence was restored, cordially embraced one common interest. And, now, the tide of opinion gliding smoothly along in one direction ; liberality of sentiment expanding daily ; the pulpit, the bar, and the bench, filled with persons of moderation and talents ; the university rearing in its bosom the future ornaments of the civil and ecclesiastical departments, and the distinguished luminaries of the Scottish literati ; all, all concurred in hastening the happy era, when a state of civil society, in refined and polished

polished manners second to none in any section of Europe, should eventually obtain, and diffuse its influence in every direction.

Let us now take a survey of the state of society and manners in the capital of North Britain, about the middle of the eighteenth century.

Long before the period to which we now direct our attention, a free and speedy communication between London and Edinburgh had been fully established; in consequence, the language, taste, and manners of the two capitals gradually assimilating, and nearer and nearer approaching in their political and commercial intercourse and speculations, the inhabitants of Edinburgh saw clearly that the way to wealth and distinction lay open to all whose talents and industry were excited by the hope of reward, honour, and celebrity. Still they were poor in purse, but not so in spirit; their mental resources contained a mine of inexhaustible knowledge; and, as knowledge is power, so, in the proper exercise of that power, the rock on which the temple of Fame stood, though seen afar, was to be climbed, and a feat secured in that sacred fane to which all eyes are eagerly directed.

Besides the useful and more necessary branches of learning taught in the schools and university of Edinburgh, the ornamental accomplishments of music, dancing, and drawing, were deemed indispensable in the plan of a polite education: hence masters in their several departments found encouragement in Edinburgh in the exercise of their professions.

An assembly for dancing had existed from the year 1710*, though it was not till the year 1746 that it was established as a

* There was an assembly room in George's Square, which has lately been totally altered, and converted into a dwelling house.

public entertainment, on a similar footing with other assemblies of the like nature in every great city throughout Europe. The room in which the company assembled, being small and inconvenient, was changed for one very little better; but when the George's Square assembly-rooms were finished, the accommodation in all respects was excellent.

In the year 1728, the musical society of St. Mary's chapel was first instituted; and in 1746, when the Prince of Hesse was in Edinburgh, the governor of the musical society and the members of the catch-club gave an elegant entertainment in honour of that prince, and added music to the feast*.

In the same year (1746) the little theatre in the Canongate was erected by Lacy Ryan of Covent Garden; and a few years after, an affair took place, which shewed in the most unequivocal manner that the embers of party spirit, which wanted but a breath to kindle them into flame, were not wholly extinguished. Every national event is either the subject of a song or a tune, or both. The total overthrow of the rebels at *Culloden* was commemorated by an anniversary; and on that night, in the year 1749, the play-house was open, and several military gentlemen were present. The orchestra were called on to play the anniversary tune of *Culloden*. The audience being a mixed one, and at this period a very large proportion of the inhabitants of Edinburgh being of the Scottish episcopal persuasion, of course Jacobites, presented this rude mode of reminding them of the misfortunes which the country had but recently experienced, and, by way of reproof, ordered the musicians to strike up "*You're welcome, Charlie Stuart.*" No sooner was this complied

* Arnot's Hist. of Edin. p. 381.

with,

with, than, drawing their swords, the officers leaped on the stage, attacked the fiddlers, who fled in the onset, and like wild-ducks dived below the stage; while the military heroes, triumphant, strutted over the boards, till one, more conspicuous than the rest, and better known to many present, slipped his foot and fell flat on his belly, when peals of laughter burst from every corner of the house at the figure the prostrate son of Mars cut in the glorious rencontre. The assailants, however, did not long remain masters of the bloodless field; from the galleries, especially, a shower of apples, snuff-boxes, sticks, pieces of torn benches, and all sorts of missile fragments that were at hand, were levelled at them. Judging it therefore prudent to change the position, and attack their opponents in the rear, they quitted the stage, and, coming round to the stairs which led to the galleries, ascended sword in hand, with an intention to take them by storm. Meanwhile, the highland chairmen apprized of the cause and nature of the tumult, seized their chair-poles, and attacked the assailants in the rear, while engaged warmly with their opponents in front, who made a stout resistance. Overpowered, however, by numbers, the officers were forced to yield, and surrendered at discretion: covered with confusion at their folly and rashness, they were suffered to disperse on parole*. This was among the last political squabbles which have happened from that period to the present time at any place of public entertainment in Edinburgh †.

* Arnot's Hist. p. 374.

† Since the French revolution, a riot took place at the Edinburgh theatre on a night when the play of King Charles I. was acted.

Soon after the abolition of hereditary jurisdiction, trade and commerce quickening into life, and waxing stronger and more durable, the profession of the law became a more permanent and lucrative source of reputation and emolument than it had been, by reason of cases new and unprecedented, which, in the intercourse of commercial speculations, arose and were brought into courts of law. Moreover, as acts of parliament were annually multiplying, and trade and taxation involved in mazes of perplexity, the interference of lawyers became absolutely necessary: the courts of justice long established in Edinburgh consequently drew crowds of clients thither, who, in anxious suspense, year after year waited the issue of their causes. Hence the great increase of business at the parliament house, which since the middle of the century has continued augmenting in the ratio of the trade and flourishing state of our national commerce.

About the period under review, the tavern was the usual resort of the lawyer and his clients; and he hardly received a brief any where but in some apartment of that tavern where he was to be found*. At this time drinking became prevalent among all ranks of people, and even at this day the shameful habit but too generally obtains.

Among the gentlemen of the long robe who, soon after the latter half of the century advanced, were rising into consequence not only in their profession but as men of letters, were Lords Monboddo, Kaimes, and Hailes, also Arnot, Crosby, Maclaurin, Cullen, Erskine, and others, some of whom have since been raised to the bench†. To this era, too, belong Robertson,

* Arnot's Hist. p. 358.

† It will be remembered, that the Earl of Roselyn was bred to the Scottish bar.

Hume,

Hume, and Henry, the historians; Ferguson, Wallace, and Smith, the ornaments of commercial and political philosophy, and the philosophy of the human mind; and Blair, whose writings are models of purity in composition, and whose labours, for these last fifty years, ceased but with his existence *. He ought ever to be held up to the rising generation as an ornament to literature, whose lustre, like the diamond, the more it is handled the brighter it sparkles, and still the more brilliant will its native beauties appear to the discerning eye of true taste and correct judgment.

In mentioning the great improvers of science and literature of the last fifty years, Goodal, Ruddiman, Stuart †, and Smellie, must not be omitted. And among the chief improvers of the medical art were Cullen, Black, Monro, Gregory, Hope, Home, Duncan, and (though last, not less deserving of immortality) the author of what is called the *Brunonian System*, Dr. John Brown, whose names have reached the utmost parts of the habitable globe, and whom posterity will ever hold in grateful remembrance.

But before we proceed further, it may be proper to take a more minute survey of the situation, and habits and manners in domestic life, of the inhabitants of Edinburgh about the period under consideration.

As yet the improvements which now appear in and about Edinburgh were little farther advanced than the erection of the Royal Exchange, which was a goodly earnest of the elegance and accommodation which awaited the inhabitants of that city.

* For a sketch of the life of Dr. Hugh Blair, see the *Scots Magazine* for January 1801.

† Dr. Gilbert Stuart.

In consequence of the increasing population, and small number of houses in proportion, families were crowded together into one lodging, consisting for the most part of one, and seldom of two floors; and even families of the first distinction occupied houses at that period which few tradesmen, or people of still inferior rank, would put up with at present *. Hence arose that disregard to cleanliness which so remarkably disgraced the metropolis of North Britain long after the period to which we allude. It were to little purpose to dwell on scenes and circumstances sufficiently described and commented on by other writers; and by none more faithfully delineated, or with greater pleasantry turned into ridicule, than by our celebrated countryman Smollet, particularly in that inimitable performance intitled "The Expedition of Humphrey Clinker," wherein the manners of the inhabitants of North Britain, and of Edinburgh in particular, are held up to view in a variety of lights extremely amusing and instructive. But, before the loose and imperfect hints thus offered, respecting the progress of society and manners in Edinburgh, be brought to a close, a slight retrospect of the state of literature in the Scottish metropolis, from the first establishment of the press to the present time, may not be deemed an article unworthy of interest at this advanced stage of elegant and useful learning.

It is universally allowed, that the art of printing was discovered sometime toward the middle of the fifteenth century. The first book printed in London was in the year 1481 †, and the most ancient specimen of printing in Edinburgh hitherto found, was a collection of pamphlets preserved in the Lawyer's library,

* See Creech's Letters, Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 583.

† Palmer's Hist. of Printing, p. 353. See also Ames's Typograph. Antiq.

which were printed in 1508*. But the Scottish press was no sooner set in motion than the church took the alarm, and anathematized its licentious labours. Among its earliest productions was a breviary composed by the bishop of Aberdeen for the use of the cathedral of that city, the first volume of which was printed in 1509, and the second volume in 1510. In 1540, by order of James V. the acts of parliament from 1535 to 1540 were printed by Thomas Davidson, king's printer, the first native printer on record whose name is preserved †. Before this time, however, (in 1526,) one *Jodocus Badius Ascensius* printed *Hector Boece's* History of Scotland in Latin. But, as already hinted, the art of printing, so admirably adapted to the diffusion of knowledge, facts, and opinions, was marked with an evil eye by the ecclesiastical opposers of reformation. When compositions from the pens of Sir David Lindsay and George Buchanan issued from the press, and were read, by those who could read, with that avidity natural to human curiosity when keen irony and lacerating satire, dressed in all the charms of vernacular dialect, in flowing numbers or prosaic harmony of style, of which the Scoto-Saxon of that era was susceptible, were prepared with due point and vigorous application, the wonder is not why typography was restricted to royal licence, but that it was suffered on any account to exist in Scotland. The time, however, was at hand when an event was to take place which in its consequences involved not only the liberty of the press, but likewise was to

* Before this book was discovered, the Aberdeen Breviary, printed in 1509, was the earliest then known. Watson's Hist. of Printing. See also Chalmers's Life of Rudiman, p. 80.

† Lord Hailes's Remarks. See also Ames, p. 573.

free the human understanding from ignorance and error. Need the *Reformation* be named as this great event?

Even after the Reformation, Usurpation, Restoration, and Revolution, the Edinburgh press had to struggle for mere existence. In 1695, Watson, author of the *History of Printing*, was the first, after William and Mary ascended the throne, who carried the art of printing in Edinburgh to any degree of elegance and correctness. Few Scottish authors, however, at this stage of Scottish literature, ventured to commit their labours to the press; although there were four printing-presses established in the town, yet the reprinting of English books and law-papers constituted the chief and most lucrative branches of the trade. Booksellers were few in number*. The learned grammarian of Scotland, Ruddiman, was cotemporary with Watson, and the literary world knows how much it is indebted to this amiable and accomplished scholar for his ingenious and useful labours as an author, an editor, and a printer†, whose like the world may never again witness; nor will his name be less famous among the most learned typographers mentioned in the *History of Printing*, the Jansens, the Stephenses, or Aldus and Badius, not excepted.

With the accomplished Ruddiman were connected several men of distinguished abilities, among whom Henry Home, Lord Kaimes, deserves particularly to be mentioned. These associates of Ruddiman formed a kind of literary society, the

* Mosman, it is believed, was the principal bookseller of this period. Paton, M'Eun, and Freebairn, were likewise in trade, and published good books.

† The first production of Ruddiman's press was Abercromby's *Martial Achievements*, vol. ii. Chalmers's *Life of Rud.* p. 81.

first,

first, it is believed, north of the Tweed. This took place in the year 1718 *. To this literary circle succeeded, in 1731, the Society for the Improvement of Medical Knowledge. This society, in some measure coeval with the Edinburgh School of Medicine, published the first volume of its Transactions in the year 1732; since which, the series of observations begun at this epoch has been carried on under various titles to the present day †. This medical society was succeeded by the *Physical and Literary Society*, but the troubles of the year 1745 interrupted the frequent meetings of its members. In 1752, however, the society was resumed; and in 1754 a volume of *Physical and Literary Essays* appeared: this volume was so well received, that the society published soon after two others, which were also much valued for their erudition and research. The society still exists, under the title of the *Royal Society of Edinburgh*, the Transactions of which are periodically laid before the philosophical world. In 1748, the celebrated author of "*An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*," "*The Theory of Moral Sentiments*," &c. fixed his residence at Edinburgh, where, during the year 1749, he read lectures on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres, "under the patronage (as his learned biographer ‡ informs us) of Lord Kaimes."—"About this time, too, he contracted a very intimate friendship, which continued without interruption till his death, with Mr. ALEXANDER WEDDERBURN, now Earl of ROSSLYN, and with Mr.

* Chalmers's Life of Ruddiman, p. 84.

† Viz. Duncan's Med. Comm.

‡ Mr. *Dugald Stewart*, Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, whom the author of these pages is proud to call Master.

WILLIAM JOHNSTONE, now Mr. PULTENEY*," with whom, and the late celebrated Drs. BLAIR and ROBERTSON, he carried on a periodical work called *The Edinburgh Review*, which was to have been published every six months. The first number appeared in January, and the second in July, 1755, after which it was no longer prosecuted, having been knocked on the head by a well-written pamphlet, intitled "A View of the Edinburgh Review, pointing out the Spirit and Tendency of that Paper," printed in the year 1756.

By this time David Hume's writings were rapidly gaining ground. Smith, and two of his coadjutors, were considered as little better than freethinkers; while Blair and Robertson were looked on by their sanctified brethren as learned divines of doubtful principles: and what strongly impressed the zealots and hypocritical pastors of the Presbyterian church was, the accomplishments, erudition, and taste of these luminaries of modern literature. Moreover, at the very time when the above publication was suppressed, the tragedy of Douglas was brought on the stage, its author, too, a clergyman of the established church! Hell yawned; the devil burst forth; the uproar commenced; the old women of both sexes were panic struck; the children cried "What's the matter?" The young and the gay went to see; the churchmen gnashed their teeth, and uttered groans, portentous of the future fate of holy zeal commixed with vile hypocrisy. Strange to tell, from this circumstance, namely, that of a clergyman writing an elegant classical drama, the first too that appeared from the pen of a Scotchman, a division in the church, as marked as that of the British House of Commons,

* Since, Sir William Pulteney, Bart.

took

took place, which has lasted for nearly half a century, with little or no variation, but, at the same time, with a temper that seldom or never breaks forth beyond the boundaries of civility and due decorum.

From the time when the Edinburgh Review fell dead from the press, no periodical publication of merit appeared, till, in 1768, the Weekly Magazine, or Edinburgh Amusement, printed by and for Walter Ruddiman, in which were contained original essays on manufactures, agriculture, literary topics, extracts from new publications, selections from other magazines, early intelligence as a newspaper, &c. Possessing novelty and a considerable share of merit, moreover being afforded to the reader at short intervals at a cheap rate, this publication had a rapid and extensive sale, and continued for a considerable length of time afterwards under the title of "*Ruddiman's Weekly Magazine*."

In October 1773, "The Edinburgh Magazine and Review, by a Society of Gentlemen," printed by W. Smellie for W. Creech, made its appearance, and, after maintaining an existence with much dignity and self-importance, died a Roman death in August 1776, having previously announced the exit of one of its first contributors, *David Hume*, Esq. the celebrated historian, well known for his political and philosophical works*. To this society of Reviewers belonged the late ingenious Dr. Gilbert Stuart; and the literary miscellany conducted by them is strongly marked with the peculiar habits of thought and mode of expression of that singular and eccentric genius.

* For some account of this publication see Smellie's Literary and Characteristical Lives.

In 1785 "*The Edinburgh Magazine, or Literary Miscellany*," printed by Macfarquhar and Elliot, for J. Sibbald, Parliament Square, came forth, and still continues in existence, having passed into different hands since its first publication.

But the oldest periodical journal or literary repository that Edinburgh possesses is, "*The Scots Magazine*," which was begun in 1739, and was then printed by Sands, Brymer, Murray, and Cochrane. The sons of the two latter printers still carry on this judicious, correct, and valuable publication, which has subsisted with undiminished reputation for more than *sixty years*! In this miscellany, from its commencement to the present time, will be found a correct list of all the literary works of merit, the production of Scottish writers; which will better display the progress of literature in North Britain than any analysis, however impartial, accurate, and elaborate, such an attempt might prove.

It now remains to mention the origin and progress of the Edinburgh newspapers. To Oliver Cromwell, then, is the capital of Scotland indebted for its first publication of a newspaper. *Mercurius Politicus*, on the 26th October 1653, issued from the press at Leith*. Christopher Higgin, whom Cromwell had carried with him as printer to the English army with which he invaded Scotland, remained at Leith, and in November 1652 began reprinting a London newspaper for the information of the soldiers of the usurper's army; but afterwards, as noticed above, it was continued for the benefit of the community at large. On the 31st of December 1660, the first number of

* This paper was afterwards printed at Edinburgh, in 1660, under the name of *Mercurius Publicus*. See Chalmers's *Life of Ruddiman*, p. 117.

"MERCURIUS CALEDONIUS" appeared; but after ten numbers were published, it was dropped. To this short-lived newspaper succeeded "*The Kingdom's Intelligencer*," which merely retailed the news of London. In February 1699, "*The Edinburgh Gazette*" was first printed, (by James Watson, author of the History of Printing,) under royal authority. In February 1705, "*The Edinburgh Courant*" was published. "*The Scots Courant*" was also printed by Watson, who had transferred the Edinburgh Gazette to another publisher, John Reid. Thus Edinburgh was in possession of three newspapers at the era of the Union. In December 1718, *The Edinburgh Evening Courant* was started; since which period it continues to be printed by *David Ramsay*, the ingenious author of "*Military Memoirs of Great Britain, or a History of the War 1755—1763, Edinburgh, 1779.*" In April 1720 "*The Caledonian Mercury*" made its appearance, and has been continued ever since. The learned Ruddiman was at one time editor of this paper*, and its reputation has not diminished in the hands of his successors. The next newspaper that appeared was "*The Edinburgh Advertiser*;" and within these twelve years "*The Herald, Gazetteer, Scots Chronicle*, and others, have struggled for existence, some of which have sunk under the pressure of the times. Indeed, it is much to be feared, that, if the threatened additional duty on paper takes place†, not only the newspapers must decrease in number, but of the twenty printing-houses at present in Edinburgh, one half must be shut up; of the thirty booksellers and stationers, one third must become insolvent; and of the eleven

* Chalmers's Life of Ruddiman, p. 127.

† Since writing the above, an additional duty has been imposed.

music-sellers at this hour in business *, it will exhibit a miracle if one third stand their ground. Besides the periodical publications mentioned above, "*The Mirror*" and "*The Lounger*," two works of elegance and taste as literary compositions, and so well received as to have gone through several editions, have been given to the world by the Edinburgh literati.

In short, so speedy and easy is the communication now between London and Edinburgh, that, in passing from the one capital to the other, the time in which the journey is performed, owing to the rapidity of the conveyance, shortens, as it were, the distance so wonderfully, that, on stepping into the mail coach at Edinburgh, and descending the steps into the inns at Berwick, Newcastle, York, and London, it seems but travelling through one and the same city, stretched along an immense thoroughfare crowded with people eager in the acquirement of fame and wealth.

* From the number of music shops and musical-instrument makers in Edinburgh, it might naturally be supposed that a genuine taste for music prevailed: but is this the case?

*Logie Green, Canon Mills,
10th March 1801.*

ADDITIONAL

ADDITIONAL NOTES.

NOTE [A], Vol. I. Page 79.

THE situation of *Aloa* is truly pleasant. Its harbour is good, and there is safe anchorage for vessels of considerable burden immediately at the entrance of it. The depth of water in this harbour is three feet and a half more than in the harbour of Leith, notwithstanding that the latter is upwards of seventeen miles nearer the sea. At spring tides the water rises from seventeen to twenty-two feet; and there is at all times a depth of from twelve to fifteen feet. The breadth of the Forth is about a mile. From Stirling to Aloa is seven miles nearly by land; but the windings of the Forth measure, from the bridge of Stirling to the quay of Aloa, a length of nineteen miles and a half. According to returns made a few years ago, the shipping belonging to Aloa amounted to 7241 tons, which affords constant employment for 500 seamen. The staple commodity is coal, in which trade the greater number of the vessels are engaged. For the size of the place, the export and import trade is considerable, and is principally carried on with Germany, Holland, Denmark, Norway, &c. The exports chiefly consist of coals and glass bottles. The imports are iron, flax, linseed, grain, wood, &c.

The branches of manufacture at Aloa are glass bottles, bricks and tiles, and tanning of leather. Formerly, there was a pretty considerable manufactory for tobacco. Camblets, too, used to be manufactured here, and sent to the English market, whence they come back to this country, to be retailed to the natives at an advanced price! This branch has been on the decline of late years. The making of narrow and broad cloths has recently been introduced on a small scale. Linens and muslins are made, and sent to Glasgow. A small iron-foundry and other iron works have been established for some time back. The ingenious family of the Meikles, engineers and millwrights, well known for their inventions in machinery, have been long settled here.

The coal mines of Aloa have been worked ever since the year 1623. Formerly, the miners were a rude, immoral set of beings, and were held in perpetual slavery: within these thirty years, however, an emancipation has, in some degree, taken place; and, their children having learned to read and write, a remarkable change in their manners and mode of living has ensued. The worthy representative of the *Erskines of Mar*, who is the principal proprietor of Aloa, has bestowed great pains to bring about this happy event; and it is but justice to acknowledge, that in every thing which regards the comfort and condition of those around him he takes an active and useful part. His family residence is Aloa tower, which he has greatly improved. It is supposed to have been built prior to the year 1300*.

Agriculture around Aloa has made rapid advances within the last twenty years. The spirit of improvement, extending in every direction, shews itself in all manner of rural economy. *Plowing matches* were first instituted in the neighbourhood of Aloa, by HUGH RIOCH of the Hiltoun, a spirited and enterprising farmer, in the year 1784; since which period, they have been adopted throughout Scotland, and in many parts of England. (See "A General View of the Agriculture of the County of Clackmannan, by John Francis Erskine, Esq. of Mar.") But one circumstance, singular in its nature, and characteristic in no small degree of a narrow spirit of unaccountable prejudice, deserves particular remark. In the neighbouring parish of *Clackmannan*, about two miles further down the Forth, *Alexander Vertue*, a farmer's servant, who gained the chief prize at the first ploughing match, was, in 1793, sent for to his Majesty's farm at Windsor, in order to instruct the persons employed there in the art of ploughing. The Scottish ploughman began his operations in the royal presence, and obtained the smile of approbation and regard. It was frankly confessed by every one, that, in point of excellence, no such ploughing had before been seen in that part of the country. Next morning, however, instead of Vertue's resuming his work, he was ordered "not to go near the King's farm at Windsor, on any account whatever, nor have the smallest intercourse with his Majesty's farm servants." Thus was this ingenious stranger dismissed without further ceremony; and, after receiving some consideration for a journey of four hundred and thirty miles, loss of time, &c. he was permitted to return to Scotland.

* Since the above was written, Aloa house has been burnt to the ground, the old tower (which is in height eighty-nine feet, and its walls eleven feet in thickness) excepted. Many valuable pictures and most of the furniture were consumed: the family papers, however, were saved. This untoward event happened in August 1800.

Clackmannan is the county town of the shire to which it gives its name. Though beautifully situated on a gently inclining eminence, on which the ancient tower of the Bruces appears the most striking object, overlooking the rich and extensive plain through which the Forth winds its waters from the Grampian mountains to the sea; yet the wretched appearance of the houses, with hardly an exception, forms a striking contrast to the beauty and grandeur of the scenery around it. Without trade or artificers, this village is fast hastening to decay. In its neighbourhood are the residences of Mr. Bruce of Kennet, and Mr. George Abercromby of Tullibody, the venerable father of Sir Ralph Abercromby, Commander in chief of the military forces of North Britain. Mr. Bruce's house was lately built, and is in a style of elegance and simplicity that marks the taste and judgment of its owner. Brucefield, the residence of Sir Ralph Abercromby's father, has nothing either of convenience or ornament to recommend it to notice; but the venerable father of the British general, now in the ninety-fifth year of his age, may be mentioned with regard and respect. He was born on his paternal estate of Tullibody, in the neighbouring parish (Aloa), in the year 1705, was called to the Scottish bar in 1728, and is the oldest lawyer living of the college of justice. He enjoys in an uncommon degree the use of all his intellectual faculties, and his active powers in a manner becoming his advanced period of existence. He has also the pleasing and singular felicity of seeing his offspring high in celebrity and in offices of importance. The cup of his enjoyment was lately greatly embittered by the death of his third son, Lord Abercromby, one of the senators of the Court of Session. Yet there remain two others, highly distinguished for their military talents; namely, his second son, Sir Robert, Governor of Bombay, and Commander in chief of the forces in Bengal; and his eldest son and heir, Sir Ralph, whose martial fame is very considerable. As a country gentleman, also, ever attentive to all within the circle of his movement, the latter stands high in the estimation of his neighbours and dependants: and, when his military glory shall have fallen into oblivion, when the art of war shall be heard of as the idle tales of tournaments and feats of chivalry, it will be gratefully remembered, that he was the friend of the poor destitute, the patron of useful knowledge, and the promoter of education among the meanest cottagers: as an instance, it may be mentioned that, in the village of Tullibody, on his paternal estate, a reading school, under his immediate inspection, was established many years back. The sons of our Scottish generalissimo* bid fair to rival their father in respectability and fame. The one is a lawyer and the other a soldier. The interest of the

* Since the above was written, the gallant Sir Ralph has been killed at the head of his army in Egypt.
father

father may conduce to the advancement of the sons, and thus fortune be made to smile and beam around the gray head of the grandfather, as he sinks to repose, full of years, and crowned with honour and prosperity*.

Another venerable personage, who attained a length of days rarely the lot of humanity, deserves particular notice in this place, viz. Katherine Bruce, widow of Henry Bruce, the last laird of Clackmannan. This estate remained in the family of Bruce, in the direct line, from the days of David II. till the year 1772. In the old tower, which still remains, were kept, in the possession of the above mentioned lady, a two-handed sword of large size, and a helmet, said to have been the same that Robert Bruce wore at the battle of Bannockburn; both of which are now possessed by the present earl of Elgin, who disputes the chieftainship of the Bruces with Bruce of Kennet. In Katherine Bruce, who reached her ninety-fifth year, and died in November 1790, the direct line became extinct. "The memory of this lady (says the author of the Statistical Account of the Parish of Clackmannan) will ever be revered by all who knew her. She was one of those rare characters which at times appear on earth as the ornament of their nature. To all the high sentiments of a dignified and enlightened mind, she added those amiable virtues of the heart which render their influence irresistible. As long as she lived, therefore, the Tower of Clackmannan was frequented by her numerous friends and acquaintances, of various ranks, and of all ages; for her extreme weight of years had not made the least impression upon that happy vivacity and cheerfulness of temper which had always made her company so much the admiration and the delight of her friends. She was formed to support to the last, with undiminished dignity, the character of the race from which she was sprung." See Stat. Acc. vol. xiv. And for the description of an interesting interview between this venerable descendant of *the Bruce* and the late celebrated Ayrshire bard, Robert Burns, see Curry's Life of Burns, lately published.

In the neighbourhood of Clackmannan are extensive coal works, iron works, and distilleries. Previous to 1788, the distilleries of Kilbogie and Kennetpans were carried on with a spirit of enterprize unknown in former periods in this part of our island: since the duties have been levied on the Scottish distilleries, however, and particularly of late years, the works have been suffered to fall into decay. "Prometheus was painted (says Darwin) as stealing fire from heaven,

* Since writing the above, the following notice of his death appeared in the Edinburgh Courant of June 14, 1800: "George Abercromby, Esq. of Tullibody, died here (Edinburgh) on the 8th instant, in the 95th year of his age.

which

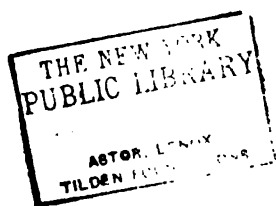
which might well represent the inflammable spirit produced by fermentation, which may be said to animate or enliven the man of clay : whence the conquest of Bacchus, as well as the temporary mirth and noise of his devotees. But the after punishment of those who steal this accursed fire is a vulture gnawing the liver, and well allegorizes the poor inebriate lingering for years under painful hepatic diseases. When the expediency of laying a further tax on the distillation of spirituous liquors from grain was canvassed before the House of Commons some years ago, it was said of the distillers, with great truth, "*they take the bread from the people, and convert it into poison !*" Yet is this manufactory of disease permitted to continue, as appears by paying into the Treasury above 900,000*l.* near a million of money, annually. And thus, under the names of rum, brandy, gin, whisky, usquebaugh, wine, cyder, beer, and porter, alcohol has become the bane of the Christian world, as opium of the Mahometan." See Darwin's *Zoonomia*, vol. i. p. 357. See also Curry's *Life of Burns*, where this subject is judiciously treated.

The Forth passes by the town of Clackmannan at the distance of a mile to the south. Three miles farther down, it expands into a fine sheet of water resembling an inland lake, exhibiting a noble appearance ; and is often covered with shipping from various sections of the globe. The shores of Kincardine and Culrofs on the north bank, and the opposite shores of Grangemouth and Borrowstounness, with all their harbours, shipping, &c. greatly enliven the scene, and add interest to the pleasure derived from so extensive a range of prospect.

Culrofs stands on the north bank of the Forth, rising with a gentle inclination to a considerable eminence fronting the south-west. Immediately above the town is the church, adjacent to which are the remains of the abbey of Culrofs, or *Kyllenrofs*, founded in the year 1217 by Malcolm earl of Fife. The church was dedicated to St. Serf the confessor (*Sanctus Servanus*). St. Mungo, his disciple, had a chapel dedicated to him, the relics of which are seen near the harbour of Culrofs. St. Servanus lived in a hermitage in the place where afterwards the monastery was erected. See an account of St. Serf in Winton's Chronicle, MS. in the Cotton Library ; a copy of it is also preserved in the Lawyer's Library of Edinburgh : great part of it is now published. In the immediate vicinity of Culrofs are several old family residences. What is now called the abbey of Culrofs is the family seat of Lord Dundonald ; it was built in the year 1590, by Edward Lord Bruce of Kinlofs. Its front is to the south, and it is turretted at each end, which gives it an air of antiquity and grandeur by no means uninteresting.

Farther west is Castle-hill, formerly called *Dunnemarie Castle*, in which, it is said, Macbeth ordered Macduff's wife and children to be murdered. See Shakspeare's affecting description of this horrid deed. The castle is now completely in ruins. Near the creek of Kincardine are the ruins of the castle of Tullialin. A little farther to the westward, close in on the river, is Blair castle, the residence of Robert Dundas, Esquire. This mansion was built by Archbishop Hamilton of St. Andrew's but a little time previous to the Reformation. In short, the situation of Culrofs and the places adjacent present to the eye a most pleasing and picturesque assemblage of objects in every direction : but this is contrasted with decay and poverty, particularly in the town itself. Culrofs is a royal burgh, and, in conjunction with Stirling, Dunfermline, Inverkeithing, and South Queen's-ferry, sends a representative to parliament. It was erected into a burgh of barony in 1484, when John Hog was abbot of Culrofs abbey, and into a burgh royal, by James VI. in 1588. There are some military antiquities in the neighbourhood. The remains of some Danish camps of an oval form are still in a state of preservation, as are also those of some stations which were occupied by Scottish armies in remote times. A century ago, the coal works of Culrofs were the most considerable of any of the north bank on the Forth : they were then wrought as far as within sea-mark ; at present, the mines are almost entirely deserted. The other minerals in the neighbourhood are, free-stone, (of which, it is said, the Stadthouse of Amsterdam was built,) iron-stone, ochre, and potters' clay of such a quality as is not inferior to any found in England. Although this burgh is now poor and but thinly inhabited, it was once a place of considerable trade in coal and salt : the salt pans are said to have amounted to fifty in number, and were in their most flourishing state in the reign of James VI. Culrofs was formerly noted for making of girdles, a culinary utensil of great importance in the *Land o' Cakes*. By royal grants in the reign of James VI. and his grandson Charles II. the girdle-smiths of this place had the exclusive privilege of manufacturing of girdles ; but this monopoly was forbid, in 1727, by the Court of Session, since which period girdle-making has declined here, and is now almost extinct. Lord Dundonald's manufactory of British tar, obtained by a chemical process, from coal, is well known to the public : but this valuable article, as well as other products from the same mineral, have failed of success. This is truly a national loss. The fisheries of Culrofs, Kincardine, and Langannet, are some years very productive. The poor are well supplied in Culrofs ; and there are several charitable foundations for decayed tradesmen, &c.

The





Ruins of Dunfermline Abbey.

Engraved from the original drawing by W. Marshall del.

The last abbot of Culrofs abbey was Alexander, son of Sir James Colvil of Ochiltree. "Sir James Colvil, (says Spotiswoode,) brother to the said Alexander, was raised to the dignity of Lord Colvil of Culrofs in the year 1604, at the time the king made him a grant of this dissolved abbey." Of this lord was descended Samuel Colvil of Culrofs, the author of the Scottish Hudibras, or "Mock Poem, or Whig's Supplication;" London, printed 1681.

" Samuel was sent to France,
To learn to sing and dance
And play upon a fiddle:
Now he's a man of great esteem;
His mother gat him in a dream
At Culrofs on a girdle."

These lines allude to the mother of our poet, author of "Ane godly Dream compyled by Elizabeth Melvil, Lady Culrofs younger, at the Request of a Friend. Printed by the heirs of Andrew Anderson in the year 1680." See Campbell's Introduction to the History of Poetry in Scotland.

The next sea-port town to Culrofs is Torryburn. Its shipping amounts to about a thousand tons; consequently, its trade at home or abroad is but inconsiderable. The coals of Torryburn are of an excellent quality, and suit the London market, to which they are exported. From Torryburn to Dunfermline is only a short distance.

DUNFERMLINE, formerly the seat of royal and ecclesiastical splendour, is built on a rising eminence commanding in every direction a wide range of grand and interesting prospects. The hill on which this town is situated is about three miles from the sea, and one hundred and ninety feet above the level of the Forth, the windings of which, from the foot of the Grampians to the German ocean, a stretch of country of more than eighty miles from east to west, are seen from the tower steeple. The approach to Dunfermline from the south is truly picturesque. The ruins of the monastery and palace form the most interesting feature of the landscape. These hang over a beautiful wooded glen, deep and narrow, through which a rivulet rapidly runs, which, being joined by a small tributary rill that is collected from springs in the neighbourhood, is conducted through the streets, and, after supplying by its force several mills built on the steep side of this dell, falls into the *Lyne*, or brook, beneath the mouldering walls of the abbey. This monastery was begun by Malcolm III. (surnamed Canmore) and was finished by

Alexander I. (surnamed the Fierce). David I. erecting it into an abbey, brought hither from Canterbury, in the year 1124, thirteen monks of the order of Benedictines, or Black Monks. *Vide Hope's Min. Pract. p. 436.* Several towns and lands were given to this abbey by its founders; viz. Musselburgh and Inveresk, with the parish church, mills, and harbour; Kinghorn, Kirkaldy, and Brant-island, with their harbours, &c. The monastery and church were dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and to the wife of Malcolm III. Queen, afterwards Saint, Margaret. The first abbot was Gosfridus, or Gaufrid, formerly prior of Canterbury, who died in 1153, after having enjoyed this appointment twenty-five years; and the last abbot was George Durie, commendator and archdeacon of St. Andrew's. In the 13th parliament of James VI. this abbey was united to the crown; and, on the general dissolution of religious houses, it was given to Mr. Secretary Pitcairn, then to the Master of Gray, and afterwards it was conferred on Alexander, son of Lord Seton, who, in 1605, was created Earl of Dunfermline. *Ibid.* The monks of Dunfermline, having wisely embraced the reformed religion, were not deprived of the benefit of their establishment during their lives. The ruins of this monastery are now in the last stage of their decline; the great window of the Frater-hall, however, is still in tolerable preservation*. The church and monastery have not suffered more by time than by the ruthless hand of the invader and of religious fanaticism. In 1303, when Edward I. wintered at Dunfermline, "the English soldiers utterly destroyed this magnificent fabric," says Lord Hailes. See his Annals of Scotland. What the soldiery spared the reformers demolished, namely, the cells of the monks, a race of drones particularly obnoxious to the multitude. "The south-west wall of the palace still remains a monument of the magnificent fabric of which it is a part, and tradition continues to point out the chimney of the apartment where the unfortunate monarch Charles I. was born †." *Vide Stat. Acc. vol. xiii. p. 448.* Pennant and Grose both say, but do not mention on what authority, that Anne of Denmark, mother of Charles I. rebuilt the palace of Dunfermline. A house adjoining the palace built for Queen Anne of Denmark, which within these seventeen years was habitable, may have led to this mistake. *Ibid.* The nuptial bed of this

* Mr. John Bain, mathematician at Edinburgh, has executed, and means to publish, a series of views of the ruins of the ancient religious houses in Dunfermline. The drawings are in a style of superior excellence, wherein truth and nature are portrayed with the hand of a master.

† The princess Elizabeth, from whom his present Majesty is descended, was also born in this palace.

queen is now in the possession of the Earl of Elgin: it is of walnut-tree, and of curious workmanship very neatly carved. The queen's *ambrie*, or cabinet, made of the same kind of wood, and of similar workmanship, is in the possession of a private family in Dunfermline. The church of Dunfermline is still pretty entire. It was built by Malcolm III. already mentioned. It is lofty and capacious; and part of it is yet occupied as a place of worship. The royal cemetery, said to contain eight kings, is now a heap of rubbish to the depth of several feet; and vulgar dust has long been laid on the poor remains of our Scottish monarchs. The tomb-stone of St. Margaret with six other flat stones are still shewn to strangers as relics of royalty. But what will attract most notice is the late Earl of Elgin's monument, the inscription on which is composed in a style of elegance and simplicity rarely to be met with.

Among the eminent natives of Dunfermline mentioned in the annals of Scottish literature is "*Robert Henryfoun*, schoolmaster of Dunfermling, author of *the Testament of Cresseid* (printed among Chaucer's Poems), imprinted at *Edinburgh be Henric Charteris anno 1593, 4to.*" and of *Fables*, which were printed at Edinburgh by Henry Haft, 1621. The latter works are in the Harleian Library, MSS. 3865, p. 1.; and the former work is in the Museum. "I suppose (says Lord Hailes) his office to have been that of preceptor of youth in the Benedictine convents at Dunfermline. Many of Henryfoun's poems (continues his lordship) are to be found in this collection (his own, from the notes of which this extract is taken). They have a moral turn, and are free from that licentiousness which debases the compositions of some of his cotemporaries." *Vide Notes on ancient Scottish Poems*, from Bannatyn's MS. p. 273. Mr. John Pinkerton says of Henryfoun's *Fables*, that, "instead of being so moral as Lord Hailes states them, they have, in many passages, equal freedom with any cotemporary poetry." See "*Ancient Scottish Poems*, printed in 1786, p. xcix. See also *Specimens of Henryfoun's Poems* in Ramsay's *Evergreen*, vol. i.

In the neighbourhood of Dunfermline coal and lime are abundant. It is said, that, owing to the many subterraneous levels and mines, the draining of water there constantly occasion is greatly felt on the surface. In the immediate vicinity of Dunfermline agriculture is in the highest state of improvement. By the spirited exertions and laudable example of some land-owners in this district much benefit has resulted from bringing about the happy change in rural economy. Mr. George Chalmers, late of Pittencrief, one of the first characters for public spirit, has exhibited a lasting monument of utility, by throwing a bridge, or

in an extensive level, on the north-west border of Lochleven, one of the very few lakes in the lowland districts of Scotland. The appearance of the town itself is but mean: it is, however, delightfully situated on the margin of the lake, a fine sheet of water, bounded on the east and south by the Bonarty and Lomond hills, and on the north and west by the great plain of Kinross, extending westward till it joins the beautiful vale of Devon, which stretches along the foot of the Ochil hills as far as Stirling, a distance of nearly twenty-four miles in that direction. Lochleven is twelve miles in circumference. Besides the surrounding scenery, its islands add greatly to its picturesque beauty, and cannot fail to interest and please. The view from the bridge over the *South Quiech*, a little way below the town, is perhaps the best that can be commanded by a traveller whose time will not permit an excursion round the lake. The shores of the lake are naked of wood, which conveys an idea of dreary and desolate depopulation, by no means real. The hills rising boldly from the water's edge, exhibiting features grand and characteristic, are in fine contrast with the wide and extended plain, in which the waters of the lake repose. The small islands scattered on its bosom give interest to the whole; and when circumstances connected with these small insulated spots are recalled to remembrance, they raise in the mind a pleasing association of mingled emotion. The prison of Mary Queen of Scots; the ancient priory of Lochleven, of which the celebrated poet Winton was prior; and Kenniswood, the birth-place of Michael Bruce, a poet whose talents burst forth under the heaviest pressure of indigence and ill health, and who, after living in deep retirement and hopeless obscurity, sunk into an early grave; are objects within view; and to each spot its particular history is attached; so that the borders of Lochleven constitute part of the classic ground of the northern section of our island.

The castle of Lochleven is of considerable antiquity. It is said to have been founded by Congal, a Pictish king, who made it a place of residence; but there is no date or inscription to inform us at what period it was first built*. It is of a quadrangular form, turretted, and encompassed with a strong rampart. The small island on which are its ruins (still in a state of preservation,) hardly exceeds two English acres in extent. It is within a short distance of the north-west shore of

* See Sibbald's History of Kinross, p. 108. A marvellous story is noticed by some of our Scottish historians, of an attempt said to have been made by an English army in the reign of David II. to inundate the island on which the castle stands, by stopping the outlets of the lake. Vide Buchan, lib. ix.



Modelled on the spot by Alfred Thompson

Lock-Seven

Lock-Seven

London, Published March 1, 1902 by Alfred Thompson & Son, Paternoster Row

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the lake, where a promontory stretches toward it, on which the house of Kinross is seen pleasantly situated amid wooded inclosures extending to the waters brink. In the rude times of the feudal system, this castle was one of the state prisons, as well as the residence of several of our Scottish monarchs. Cumyn with a band of his followers seized the person of Alexander III. and his queen, and carried them prisoners to Stirling, dismissing the king's faithful servants, and taking the management of state affairs into his own hands. Buchan. lib. vii. Among the persons of note who have been prisoners in Lochleven castle were, the grandson of Robert III. Patrick Graham, archbishop of St. Andrew's; Mary Stuart, queen of Scots; and the earl of Northumberland.

The archbishop of St. Andrew's, Patrick Graham, first arch-bishop of that see, having in vain attempted a reformation in the lives of the clergy, fell under their insidious wiles, which, together with the machinations of those in power at court, led eventually to degradation and ruin. The malice and calumny of his enemies, particularly of the Boyds and his successor William Shevey, caused him to be arrested and confined to his palace at St. Andrew's, whence he was soon after removed to Inchcolm, next to Dunfermline, and lastly to Lochleven castle, where he ended his days, "after an empty title of thirteen years (says Keith), and was buried in St. Servanus's isle within the chapel." See Keith's Catalogue of Bishops; Spottiswood's Hist.; Buchan. lib. xii.; Reliquiæ divi Andree; and Sibbald's Hist. of Kinross.

The Queen of Scots, Mary Stuart, was imprisoned in Lochleven castle on the 16th of June 1567. Soon after, she resigned the crown in favour of her son, her natural brother Murray being appointed regent. George Douglas, the youngest son of Sir Robert Douglas of Lochleven, having, in conjunction with a party of the queen's chosen adherents, formed a secret plan for Mary's escape from confinement, effected the same on the 2d of May 1568; but, alas! to exchange that prison for one more distant, where, after eighteen years' endurance of all the horrors of a close confinement, she ended her days on a scaffold.

* * * * *

"Sceft thou, Alexis, yonder verdant isle,
Far in the bosom of the lucid lake,
That on its margin bears a mould'ring pile
Where lonely eagles now their eyries make?"

Shepherd.

ADDITIONAL NOTES.

Shepherd, within those walls have mighty peers,
 Beauties now long in dust, thro' dances led ;
 And yon green tree, moss grown, and dry with years,
 Once shaded MARY's lovely hapless head.
 O ill-farr'd Queen !
 Matchless in beauty as in woe !
 Oft by musing fancy seen
 Her spirit comes ; while soft and slow
 I wander here beneath the moon's pale beam,
 And winds and murmur'ing waters soothe my dream."

M'DONALD.

See the remainder of this beautiful ode, in p. 123 of the "Miscellaneous Works of Andrew M'Donald," author of *Vimonda*, &c.

The priory of Lochleven (situated in an island called St. Serf's, a little to the south-east of the castle,) was founded by Brudeus, the last but one of the Pictish kings, in honour of St. Servanus, "a monk or pilgrim, who (says Spottiswood), it is reported, came from Canaan to Inchkeith, and got Merkinglafs and Culrofs for his possessions." This monastery was afterwards annexed by David I. to the priory of St. Andrew's. "Our famous historian *Andrew Winton* was prior of this place. His history, which is in Scottish metre, is still extant in the Advocates' Library. It begins at the creation of the world, and concludes with the captivity of James I. in England, during whose reign he died." Hope's Min. Pract. p. 417. This island contains about forty-eight Scottish acres, and is excellent for rearing black cattle.

The monastery of *Portmoak*, founded by Eogusfh king of the Picts, stood on the eastern border of Lochleven, on the north side of the Water of Leven, (so called from its being the outlet of the lake into the Frith of Forth,) and was originally a cell belonging to the Culdees. It was consecrated to the Virgin Mary, and, in October 1570, was united to St. Leonard's college, St. Andrew's, by John Winram, then prior of Portmoak, and sub-prior of St. Andrew's. This monastery is now almost completely demolished. See Hope's Min. Pract. and Stat. Acc. vol. v.

Not far from the monastery, on the same side of the lake, on the north bank of the Water of Leven, the hospital of Scotland-well, (*Fons Scoticus*,) at the foot of the South Lomond, or Bishop's hill, was situated, amid a number of springs
 remarkable

remarkable for their purity, copiousness, and quality: hence the name *Scotland-well*. This hospital, or monastery, belonged to the order of Mathorites, or Red Friars. It was founded by William Malvoisine, bishop of St. Andrew's, who died in 1238. His successor, David de Bernham, or Bertram, in 1250 gave to the Red Friars a third of his revenues, to be appropriated for the redemption of Christian slaves from the infidels. *Vide* Hope's Min. Pract. p. 427, 428; and Keith, p. 242. The parish church of Moonzie on Carny hill near Coupar, and that of Carnock near Dunfermline, belonged to this monastery. The ruins of it are still to be seen near the village of Scotland-well. *Ibid.*^{sup} See also Stat. Acc. vol. v.

Of the eminent men born on the banks of Lochleven, JOHN DOUGLAS of the family of Pittendrich, "a Carmelite friar, next chaplain to the earl of Argyle, and afterward the first protestant archbishop of St. Andrew's in the year 1571, deserves particular mention. After being provost of the New College of St. Andrew's, he was made rector during the minority of James VI. under the four regents. See Keith's Cat. p. 25. Near the church of Orwel stands the castle of Burleigh, once the family residence of the Balfours of Burleigh, many of whom were distinguished in their day as lawyers and statesmen.

Mr. JOHN MUIR, late rector of the Perth academy, and author of many valuable school-books, was educated at the parish school of Portmoak; as was also MICHAEL BRUCE, the poet, already noticed, a native of Kenniswood in the immediate vicinity of Portmoak. Our poet was the fifth of eight children, the offspring of a poor but honest pair, viz. Alexander and Anne Bruce. He was born on the 27th of March 1746, and died the 6th of July 1767. After he had gone through the elements of his early education at the school above mentioned, he studied at the university of Edinburgh for four years preparatory to entering into the church. During the summer months of recess from his academic pursuits, he composed the greater number of the poems collected and published since his death. It appears from his letters to a friend resident near the place of his birth, that he composed the beautiful descriptive poem, intitled "*Lochleven*," during the summer of 1766, while in the humble capacity of schoolmaster of *Forest-mill* near Clackmannan, "in the bleakest corner of the parish, living in a wretched hovel, and struggling under all the hardships of poverty," and a frail habit of body deep sunk in rapid consumption, of which he soon after died. For a farther account of this ingenious young man, and the early dawnings of his

merits as a poet, see No. 36 of the *Mirror*; *Stat. Acc.*; *Anderson's British Poets*; and *Campbell's Introd. to the Hist. of Poetry in Scotland*.

Lochleven abounds with trout of a richness and delicacy rarely to be met with in any other part of the Lowlands of Scotland. They are called the *Galley trout*, or *Char*. Some of them weigh from two to eight, and even ten pounds. They generally lie in deep water, and do not rise to any kind of fly, or hook, however baited. In the lake are the various species of trout found in almost every district of Scotland, as is manifest from the variety of their appearance, shape, spots, &c. After their arrival in the waters of the lake, they become of a beautiful carnation colour when about the size of a herring, (weighing three quarters of a pound,) which is in the third year of their growth. The silver-grey trout, with four or five spots on the middle of each side, is by far the richest in point of flavour and fatness: hence it is supposed to be the native of the lake; while it is pretty certain that the others come from the hills and moors around, and become of the colour of the native trout, from feeding, like them, on a species of shell-fish of a globular shape and pink tinge, that abound among the aquatic productions at the lowest depths of the waters. Besides the trout, there are pike, perch, and a vast number of eels. In the month of September the eels begin to migrate towards the sea. The river Leven, the most considerable in Fifeshire, is the great outlet of the lake. When the eels begin to descend, the fishers spread their nets, and innumerable draughts are brought to land. This is done frequently during the night. But this fishing turns to little account, owing to the great prejudice entertained against the snake-like aspect exhibited by eels, especially such as arrive at an enormous size, which those caught in the Leven generally do.

A variety of wild fowls frequent Lochleven; such as wild ducks, wild geese, swans, herons, king's fisher, snipe, bittern, bat, water rail, coot, gull, pewit, and great tern, or pitarnes. See *Sibbald's History of Kinross*, p. 111.

The state of agriculture in the neighbourhood of Kinross is considerably on the advance. One of the chief hindrances to improvement is said to have been the small farms occupied by feuers, who contented themselves, after paying a trifling feu-duty, with merely rearing as much as would maintain themselves and cattle during the rigour of winter and in the spring: thus following the footsteps of their fathers, who, they supposed, enjoyed contentment and competency, the sum of all that is covetable in existence. But now other ideas prevail, and a different mode,

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Sketch on the Spot by Alex. Campbell

T. Mollart sculp.

Caldron linn.

London Published March 1812 by M^{rs} L. Newman in Ross's Edinburgh Review

Birch, and mountain-ash; from among which, mid-way, along the craggy steep, daws, kites, and other birds that delight in solitude, are seen sailing in security and freedom. The south bank of the Devon forms the middle ground, and a peep of the Saline hills closes in the distance. The whole is picturesque and magnificent.

In order to command a view of the wooded cliffs over which the *Rumbling Brig* is thrown, it is necessary to come round by the south bank of the river. The best station is about a gun-shot from the brink of the water, on a gentle eminence immediately opposite the bridge. Here, then, the deep and gloomy chasm through which the Devon passes is seen in one vast cleft, torn, as it were, asunder by some terrible convulsion of nature. The small arch, half seen through the hanging branches that wave wildly over the face of the rugged steep, gives an air of grandeur suitable to the solemn dignity of the scene. The whole is striking and impressive*.

From the *Rumbling Brig* to the *Caldron-linns* the Devon glides gently along; when, about a mile below the former, the bed of the river suddenly contracts its channel: as we approach the falls, the distant roar of the waters is imposing and awful. The upper fall is but inconsiderable, yet sufficient to arrest the attention. Soon after comes into view the chasm through which the river boils and foams from caldron to caldron, for such are the circular excavations called which the incessant workings of the waters in the course of ages have caused: it is terminated by a precipice almost perpendicular, over which the whole force of the Devon issues forth in a vast and powerful stream, and suddenly disappears. The thunder of its fall is tremendous. The solid rocks seem to tremble to their centre; and the mind is absorbed in mingled emotions of wonder, admiration, and pleasing terror†.

Descending to the bottom of the fall, we once more contemplate the glories of this sublime scene in a more picturesque point of light. Having come round by the foot of the south bank of the river, and having crossed it in front of the precipice through which the water gushes forth, we command a complete view of the great fall of the Devon. A stupendous pile of solid rocks over which in one full, rapid, and powerful torrent the river precipitates itself, presents its

* Where the arch is thrown across, the banks are eighty-six feet above the water. The span of the arch is twenty-two feet, and its width twelve feet. It was built in the year 1723, by one William Gray, a native of the parish of Saline. See Stat. Acc. vol. ix. p. 308.

† The height of the rock is 88 feet, and the fall 44 feet.

rugged.

rugged front. Fragments lie widely scattered in every direction, that from time to time were torn from the face of the craggy steep; the excavations of which, worn by many a raging flood in the lapse of ages, exhibit an awful aspect in fine harmony with the rude and fantastic forms of the deep and wooded dell through which the Devon, as if tired of exertion, seeks silence and repose, in its route to gain the windings of the Forth near Stirling.

Pursuing the course of the river, we arrive at the village of Dollar, above which, on a high and almost insulated rock, are the ruins of *Castle Gloom*. The spot on which this castle is situated appears peculiarly wild and inaccessible. The ruins are seen somewhat retired from the rugged steep, lofty and wooded, on either side of which mountain streams descend and unite at its base, brawling among massy fragments of rock. A range of hills, wooded on either hand, rising from the bed of the united stream, almost encompasses the rocky peninsula on which the ruins of the castle appear. Immediately behind, a vast amphitheatre of hill, beautifully sloping, and verdant to the top, adds grandeur to the scene.

On ascending the wooded heights to the ruins of Castle Gloom, looking toward the south, on the vale of Devon, beyond which are the Forth, Stirling castle, and Clackmannan tower, the hills that stretch from the Friths of Forth and Clyde and the adjacent country, a range of vast extent, furnish one of the finest prospects any where to be seen. The ruins of Castle Gloom, together with the wooded banks of each side, form a picturesque foreground.

Castle Gloom (or Castle Campbell) is a place of considerable antiquity. At what period it was first built is uncertain. It appears from charters belonging to the family of Argyle, that the lordship of Campbell, on which the castle stands, was in the possession of that family as far back as the year 1465*; and in 1493, by act of the Scottish parliament, the name of *Castle Gloom* was changed to *Castle Campbell*, by which name it is now generally known. At the era of the Reformation, Archibald the fourth earl of Argyle was the first of our Scottish nobility who publicly renounced the doctrines of the church of Rome. Here, it is said, in the gloomy solitude of this stronghold, the arch-reformer John Knox passed some time in domestic intercourse with this high-minded, independent assertor of the new opinions, for which many of his name sacrificed their lives,

* The author of the Statistical Account of Dollar says, the lauds were held by the bishop of Dunkeld; but it is also said that Dollar castle (now Castle Campbell) was given by Sh. vez, bishop of St. Andrew's, to the earl of Argyle, as a reward for his having been an abettor in the disputed title of precedence between the archbishop of St. Andrew's and the archbishop of Glasgow. Vide Reliquiæ divi Andreae, p. 48.

glorying



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Engraved on the Stone by J. M. Campbell.

Ruins of Castle Glynn.

London: Published March 1, 1872, by J. M. Campbell & Co., Paternoster Row.

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glorying in the cause of liberty and religion, such as they deemed pure and genuine.

In the year 1644, during the unhappy reign of our first Charles, Castle Campbell was burnt to the ground by the Marquis of Montrose, who had espoused the royal cause; since which period it has remained in ruins. The tower is still pretty entire; but the other parts of the buildings are rapidly hastening to total ruin. The castle when entire was completely insulated with a fosse, that joined the inaccessible parts of the deep glen over which this precipice impends, near the brink of which there is a secret stair cut out of the solid rock down to the rivulet, more than a hundred feet from top to bottom, and about six feet wide, called *Kemp's Score*, or *suit*. This passage was for the purpose of procuring water, it is supposed, during a siege. The steps are now almost invisible, owing to their being filled up with earth. The passage is truly frightful to look down into, and one feels little inclination to examine its curious construction.

So universally is literature diffused over North Britain, that even in this remote corner the pleasures that arise from it are not unfrequently felt in the meanest cottage. For example, *John Christie*, a shepherd, and a native of the parish of Dollar, is possessed of a library consisting of three hundred and seventy volumes in various departments of literature, such as history, travels, voyages, divinity, and miscellaneous subjects: among the latter are copies of the English classics, viz. the *Spectator*, *Rambler*, *Guardian*, *Tatler*, &c. besides magazines and pamphlets. *Vide Stat. Acc.* vol. xv. At the parish school of Dollar are taught Latin, English, writing, arithmetic, &c. It was established in 1640, during the reign of Charles I. *Ibid.*

The minerals of this district, along the course of the Devon, consist of coal of different kinds and quality. In the hills are found lead, copper, and silver ores, but of no remarkable richness: pebbles, too, are occasionally met with, of a beautiful appearance and considerable value, especially on the tops of the *White Wisp*, the highest pinnacle of Glenquich, immediately behind Castle Gloom.

The Ochil hills are particularly adapted to the sheep system: but the low ground was till lately in a miserably-neglected state. It is still full of weeds, and it will be difficult indeed to eradicate them from the soil, which is poor at the best. As we approach to Stirling, however, a manifest difference is observable, both with respect to soil and agricultural improvement. See General View of the Agriculture of the County of Clackmannan, by John Francis Erskine, Esq. of Mar.

In

In the neighbourhood of Dollar there is an extensive bleachfield, beautifully situated along the north bank of the Devon. It was erected in the year 1787; and the proprietors gained a premium from the board of Trustees, by experiments made with the oxygenated muriatic acid in bleaching, so far back as 1790; since which period most bleachers have adopted this expeditious and new method of bleaching.

In the year 1792 were erected, on the lands of Sauchie, the property of Lord Cathcart, on the banks of the Devon, works for the manufacture of iron from the ore, of which there is abundance in the neighbouring hills of an exceeding good quality. A great many veins of iron-stone of the kidney kind have been discovered, and yield metal in point of quality inferior to none in the island. The works consist of two blast furnaces curiously excavated out of the solid rock: the engine house and other buildings are formed in the same manner. These works, which are within three miles of the port and harbour of Alos, promise to be soon a speculation of much profit to the proprietors, as well as to the land-owners in their immediate neighbourhood. The iron-stone and coal, so abundant and so near at hand, pointed out this spot as most convenient for the erection of these works; and, under such favourable circumstances, there is every reason to expect that they will be enlarged in their scale, and extended in their several departments of manufacture. Perhaps, too, other spirited speculators may be tempted to search for the copper, lead, and silver ores, besides cobalts, antimony, sulphur, and arsenic, in the hills between Dollar and Stirling, particularly in the parishes of Alos and Tillicoultry. *Bencleugh*, the highest of the Ochil hills, is in the latter parish. It is 2300 feet above the surface of the sea at Alos. The summits of these hills, especially *Bencleugh*, or *Ben-cloch*, are composed of red and grey granite, in which are found crystals of schorle; other neighbouring hills consist chiefly of argillaceous schistus, micaceous schistus, and basaltes. There is also free-stone of an excellent quality, and fit for every purpose of building.

This part of the Ochil hills is uncommonly well adapted for sheep-farming. From the parish of Alos, in the year 1759, one James Yule, a shepherd of considerable stock, sent to the parish of Callander some of his *year-auld* wedders, in order to make trial of the low country breed in the highlands; which was the first introduction of the sheep system that now so universally obtains in our highland districts.

Some

Some remarkable instances of fecundity are mentioned by the author of the Statistical Account of the parish of Tillicoultry; particularly two women, one of whom, in the year 1765, had at one birth three boys of an ordinary size: but, what is still more extraordinary, in the year 1752, "Katherine Hunter, the wife of George Sharp, a labourer, brought forth FOUR CHILDREN at one birth, two males and two females. They were all baptized, but, being small and weakly, none of them lived above three weeks." See Stat. Acc. vol. xv.

On our approach to Stirling we frequently command interesting peeps of the town, and of the river Forth in its winding circuitous sweeps through fields, meadows, and wooded inclosures, amid which the venerable ruins of Cambuskenneth abbey appear.

NOTE [B], Vol. I. Page 91.

STIRLING was at an early period a royal residence, as appears from Kenneth III. having, anno 990, collected his forces at this place, and thence marched to oppose the Danes at Luncarty. *Vide Nimmo's History of Stirling*, p. 243, 244. This town has frequently experienced the miseries of war. On Edward the First's invasion of Scotland in 1293, and in 1300, the castle of Stirling was reduced, and garrisoned with English troops. In 1303, the Scots were once more in possession of this fortress: but on Edward's return from the north, he laid siege to it, and, after an obstinate defence, the garrison being reduced to a mere handful of men, surrendered at discretion. The Scottish again laid siege to it in 1313, and, on the fortunate issue of the battle of Bannockburn, it fell into their hands. In 1333, Edward III. was put in possession of it by Baliol, the son of the former competitor for the Scottish crown; and in 1336 the Scottish attempted to regain it, but were repulsed with loss, and were obliged to abandon their enterprise. In 1341, the Scottish, under the high steward Douglas, were more fortunate; for, after a gallant resistance on the part of the English, the governor, Lerneſi, was obliged to capitulate. From that period till 1651 this stronghold remained in the hands of the Scottish, when General Monk, during the civil wars that deluged England and Scotland with blood, took it in his progress northward: at this time, it is said, the records of the Scottish nation, which the rapacious hands of former invaders had spared, were conveyed to London by Monk

at the desire of Cromwell. In 1715, the army commanded by the duke of Argyll encamped under the walls of Stirling, when the town and castle were their head quarters. The last military transaction which took place here was in the rebellion of 1745, at which period an English governor displayed no small degree of skill and courage in its defence against four thousand of Prince Charles-Edward's troops, who, after an ill conducted siege, returned to their fastness north of the Forth: being pursued by the duke of Cumberland, they were completely vanquished in the fields of Culloden; which event was decisive of the last attempt made by the Stuarts to regain the throne of their ancestors. *Ibid.* p. 426.

An instance of trial by jury, which occurred at Stirling in the reign of our First James, is deserving of particular notice. On the death of Robert Duke of Albany, third son of King Robert II. and regent of Scotland, his son Murdoch succeeded to the regency during the king's captivity in England. In March 1425, Murdoch, his two sons, and several of the nobility, were arrested on a charge of high treason. The duke was sent prisoner to Caerlaverock castle, and in the May following was removed to Stirling. Here Murdoch, his two sons Walter and Alexander, and his father-in-law the earl of Lenox, were tried, condemned, and beheaded; the two sons, on the day on which they were condemned; and the duke and the earl of Lenox, on the day after. These transactions took place in the open air, on a small hill over against the castle, called Hurly Hawky, which is the mote hill of Stirling. Buchanan mentions the manner in which trials by jury were anciently conducted: One, eminent for authority and soundness of understanding, was chosen to preside in court, and twelve others, of equal condition with the party accused, were appointed jurors; the prisoner having the privilege of objecting to any of the twelve, or more if need were. A majority of voices decided the fate of the criminal according to the evidence and the nature of the crimes or misdemeanors. *Vide* Buchanan, lib. x.

In April 1571, John Hamilton, archbishop of St. Andrew's, a zealous adherent of our unfortunate Mary, suffered by the hands of the executioner, and, on the 22d of May 1684, the earl of Gowry was beheaded at Stirling.

James VI. was born in the castle of Stirling, and spent great part of his earlier years under the celebrated George Buchanan, to whose charge he was intrusted. Prince Henry, the son of James, was also born in it. Here it was that James VI. and his mother were crowned; as was his grandfather James V. who afterwards made it a favourite residence during most part of his reign. Many facetious anecdotes

anecdotes of this celebrated monarch are still related in this part of the country; among others, the following. James V. a prince eminent for many good qualities of heart and understanding, was skilled in all the manly exercises of the day, particularly in hunting and hawking. Being once benighted when out a hunting, and separated from his attendants, he happened to enter a cottage in the midst of a moor at the foot of the Ochil hills, near Aloa, where, unknown, he was kindly received, and entertained in the best manner the hospitably disposed inmates had in their power. In order to regale their unexpected guest, the *gude man* (i. e. landlord, farmer,) desired the *gude wife* to fetch the hen that roosted nearest the cock, which is always the plumpest, best fed, and greatest favourite, for the stranger's supper; which was done with all the goodnature imaginable. The king, highly pleased with his night's lodging, kind, frank reception, and hospitable entertainment, told mine host, at parting, that he should be glad to return his civility, and requested that the first time he came to Stirling he would call at the castle, and inquire for the *gude man of Ballinguich**, a name by which James facetiously distinguished himself when in disguise he rambled about the country. Donaldson, the landlord, did not fail to call on the *gude man of Ballinguich*, when his astonishment at finding that the king had been his guest afforded no small amusement to the merry monarch and his courtiers; and, to carry on the pleasantry, he was thenceforth dignified by James in person with the title of KING OF THE MOORS, which name and designation have descended from father to son ever since, and they have continued in possession of the identical spot, the property of Mr. Erskine of Mar, till very lately, when this gentleman with reluctance turned out the descendant and representative of the King of the Moors, on account of his majesty's invincible indolence and great dislike to reform or innovation of any kind, although, from the spirited example of his neighbour-tenants on the same estate, he is convinced similar exertion would promote his advantage. So much are some kings wedded to the prejudices of their forefathers. *Vide Stat. Acc. vol. viii. p. 608.*

Another traditional tale of an adventure with a neighbouring king is recorded of this monarch by the genealogist Buchanan of Achmar. "King James V. a very social debonair prince, residing at Stirling in Buchanan of Arnpryor's time, carriers were very frequently passing along the common road, being near Arn-

* *Ballinguich* is that narrow cleft on the north-west between the rock on which the castle of Stirling stands and the rocks immediately adjacent.

pryor's house, with necessaries for the use of the king's family; and he, having some extraordinary occasion, ordered one of these carriers to leave his load at his house, and he would pay him for it; which the carrier refused to do, telling him he was the king's carrier, and his load was for his majesty's use; to which Arnprior seemed to have small regard, compelling the carrier in the end to leave his load, telling him, if King James was king of Scotland, he was king of Kippen, so that it was reasonable he should share with his neighbour king in some of these loads so frequently carried that road. The carrier representing this usage, and telling the story, as Arnprior spoke it, to some of the king's servants, it came at length to his majesty's ears, who shortly thereafter, with a few attendants, came to visit his neighbour king, who was in the mean time at dinner. King James having sent a servant to demand access was denied the same by a tall fellow with a battle-ax, who stood porter at the gate, telling him there could be no access till dinner was over. This answer not satisfying the king, he sent to demand access a second time; upon which he was desired by the porter to desist, otherwise he would find cause to repent of his rudeness. His majesty, finding this method would not do, desired the porter to tell his master that the good man of *Ballinguch* desired to speak with the king of Kippen. The porter telling Arnprior so much, he in all humble manner came and received the king, and having entertained him with much sumptuousness and jollity, became so agreeable to King James that he allowed him to take so much of any provision he found carrying that road as he had occasion for; and seeing he made the first visit, desired Arnprior in a few days to return him a second at Stirling, which he performed, and continued in very much favour with the king, always thereafter being termed king of Kippen while he lived." See Buchanan of Achmar's Hist. and Geneal. Essays, p. 59, 60, 4to edit. 1723.

The *jug*, the legal standard of dry measure in Scotland, is still preserved with due veneration in the council-house of Stirling. The statute furlot must contain the full of this jug, twenty-one times and one fourth for wheat, and thirty-one times for barley, malt, and oats. The measure of length is kept by the burgh of Edinburgh, and the burgh of Linlithgow keep the measure of grain. These privileges were in ancient times deemed of the first importance. Thus Henry VII. of England conferred on the city of Winchester the exclusive privilege of keeping the standard measure for the whole kingdom, and presented it with a new set, of elegant workmanship, which are still to be seen in the guildhall of that city in the highest preservation.

There

There are four banking-houses in Stirling, the oldest of which was established in 1776.

Stirling is the birth place of some of the most eminent literary characters of the eighteenth century; among whom, the late historian Henry, and Moore the well known author of *A View of Society and Manners in Italy, France, &c.* and of Zeluco, Edward Mordaunt, and other productions, might be particularly noticed did our limits admit of it. Dr. Robert Pollock, too, first principal of the university of Edinburgh, and a writer of eminence of the sixteenth century, was a native of this place.

For a more particular history and description of Stirling the reader is referred to Nimmo's History of that city and shire; Stat. Acc. vol. viii.; General History of Stirling, printed in 1794; and the Encyclopædia Britannica, article *Stirling*. As the principal conductor of this laborious and extensive literary work lived in Stirling, he must have had access to all that is valuable respecting the history of this ancient town.

NOTE [C], Vol. I. Page 108.

THE inhabitants of *Glenfinglas* are chiefly of the name of Stuart, being descendants of *James Beg Stuart* of Baldoran: "Filius naturalis Jacobi Stewart, filii Murdoci ducis Albanie" (in 1464). See Duncan Stewart's History of the surname Stewart, p. 118. 128.—The following tradition respects this *Shaimis Beg* (i. e. Little James, so denominated for his low stature). He had a hunting-seat erected on the small island at the west end of *Lochachray*, to which he resorted on any sudden emergency as a place of safety. It happened that a party of Argyleshire Campbells made an excursion to the king's forests of Glenartney and Glenfinglas, whereof he was keeper, and killed a great many of the deer and roebucks, without so much as asking the permission of *Little James*. The Argyleshire hunters, wearied with the chase, and returning in quest of some habitation wherein they might rest themselves for the night, having descended from the heights of the mountain that towers to the west of *Lochachray*, met Little James nearly opposite to the small island on which his hut was situated; and inquiring of him what *maggie* had built his nest on that island, he answered, One that scorned all manner of greedy hawks, from whatever quarter they might chance to come. "Tell the magpie from us (said the hunters), that we are no less dis-

posed to hawk than to hunt around his nest ; and tell him farther, that we shall soon be this way again, and mean to visit the nest of this vain chatterer : perhaps our hawks may not impress him with a mean opinion of their skill and dexterity in seizing their prey." Little James, somewhat nettled at the threatened visitation, peevishly replied, " It may happen, likewise, that this chattering magpie, by the time your hawks have arrived within flight of his nest, by a singular power which he has over the hawks of these wooded mountains and glens, having called them in council, they may be prevailed on to suffer no strange hawks to infringe on their liberties, at least within the range to which they and their ancestors have for a length of time been accustomed." So saying, they parted. In due time the Campbells kept their word ; and Little James, having gathered his people from the various glens over which his influence extended, gave the meeting to the Argyleshire party in so warm a manner, that few returned home to give an account of the hawking match for which they so merrily departed.

Among the chief warriors of Little James's party was one named *Boilan Beg Macintyre*, so called on account of his diminutive size and vast prowess. This little hero had particularly distinguished himself in combating the Campbells ; and those who escaped the slaughter vowed speedy vengeance, especially on him. Accordingly a party, consisting of five stout fellows, set out on a secret expedition, in order to meet privately with the little man, and, having crossed the Teath somewhat beyond the *Pais of Leney*, they fell in with him while he was tending his herds, a little to the north-west of *Bochaistal* near the bridge of *Kilmahog*, that village to the west of Callendar at the entrance to the wood of Leney. Macintyre was alone and unarmed : the five Argyleshire men were well armed with bows and arrows and broad swords. It should seem that they either did not know Macintyre personally, or feigned ignorance ; as they inquired of him if he knew such a man as Boilan Beg Macintyre. He replied in the affirmative, but at the same time, affecting boorish simplicity, seemed inquisitive what might be their business with the man they wanted, and inquired what those curious things their bows and arrows were, and for what use they were invented ; to all which the Argyleshire men answered with taunts and jeering. Our hero, however, did not seem satisfied till he obtained a bow from one of the strangers, and taking an arrow from among their quivers, shot it at random with a gawkyish stupidity that excited laughter : but the fly wag, willing to gratify the Argyleshire men still farther, picked the arrows one by one from the quivers, till they, though

though too late, discovered that they were left without an arrow. They looked at each other with amazement, while Macintyre ran off as swift as he could to the place where he had shot the greater number of the arrows, and returned the strangers what they wanted with a vengeance. So well did he take his aim, that only two of the five were left to carry home the tidings of their adventure.

NOTE [D], Vol. I. Page 125.

THERE is reason to suspect that the author of the Statistical Account of the parish of Strathblane has fallen into error in mentioning *Rob Roy*, the celebrated freebooter. See Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. The author gives an order of the justices of the peace met in quarter session at Stirling, dated the 3d of February, 1658-9, for raising a contribution levied by Macgregor for preserving several parishes in the western districts of Stirlingshire from murders and devastations, often committed by his own men. The person spoken of is designated *Captain Macgregor*. Now, *Rob Roy Macgregor*, mentioned to have been a spectator of the battle of Sheriff-moor in the year 1715, supposing him at the time the above order was dated (viz. 1658) to have been about the age of thirty, must, at the above period (1715) have been about eighty-seven; an age too far advanced to make it probable that he could lead his followers to the field. And again, *Rob Roy* who was hanged in 1753 is expressly styled the son of the deceased Robert Macgregor, commonly called Rob Roy. Wherefore it remains to be determined who the *Captain Macgregor* mentioned in the said order was.

NOTE [E], Vol. I. Page 142.

THE following memorandum is taken down from the information of Alexander M'Nab, principal shepherd and manager to Captain Alexander M'Donell, of the 2d battalion Royals, at Lochtraig, who when a boy kept the first parcel of the low country breed of sheep that were introduced into the highlands. "In the year 1759, the south country breed of sheep were first brought into the parish of Callendar by James Yule, a shepherd at Aloa near Stirling. This shepherd, who had a considerable stock, was much reduced in his circumstances by reason
of

of a disease known by the name of *braxy* (a species of dropfy) sweeping away a great number of his best wedders and breeding ewes. Willing to try what a change of pasture might effect, he sent about twenty scores of *bogs* (year-old lambs) to winter on Mr. Buchanan of Cambusmere's lands near the village of Callendar; and the trial turning out, even beyond expectation, fortunate, others were tempted to repeat the experiment; and from that time to the present the sheep system gradually obtained, and the old native breed of sheep were banished as unprofitable and useless. Soon after the year 1764, some south country shepherds took considerable tracts of hill grazing for sheep walks, and introduced the Linton breed into the highlands: among the first who ventured beyond the Grampians was one *Lackwyne* from the borders, who settled in Cowal; and two of the name of Murray, one settling in Glenfalloch, and the other in Glendochart. Shortly after this, one Lindsay came to Lochernhead; and from these beginnings the sheep system, which at first met with much opposition, began rapidly to advance throughout all our highland districts, and is at present completely triumphant, bearing down every ancient custom and usage before it, and leading directly to depopulation and all its evils. The old breed of sheep in the highlands has been almost extirpated: but whether this be wise, or not, remains to be proved. With regard to the bulk of carcase, there is a decided advantage on the side of the low country breed: but, on the other hand, is not this seeming advantage more than balanced by the superior delicacy of muscle and richness of flavour; by the fleece being of a much finer texture and better quality in every respect; and by the native breed being more hardy, less liable to disease, easier to keep, &c.? Very early mention is made by the Scottish historians of our native breed of highland sheep. "Master Donald Monro, a learned and godly man (observes an old author), sayeth that when he was there (viz. in the Hebrides) he saw sheepe (as olde as that kind of bestial useth to be) feeding masterlesse, pertayning peculiarly to no man." "The Description of the Isles of Scotland," London printed 1603. See Donald Monro's Description of the Ebride; and Buchanan, lib. i.

NOTE [F], Vol. I. Page 151.

ONE of the petty lairds of Balquhiddy, McLaren, of Wester Inverneuty, narrowly escaped sharing the fate of many of his deluded countrymen who suffered at Carlisle for the part they bore during the troubles of 1745.
As

As a party of dragoons were conducting M'Laren to Carlisle in order to stand his trial as a rebel, just as they had ascended an eminence near Moffat, whence the rivers Tweed, Clyde, and Annan originate, and descend in different directions, the former to the German ocean, and the two latter to the Atlantic, the prisoner requested permission to step aside, which was granted. M'Laren, observing his guard sauntering on careless and inattentive to their duty, seized the favourable moment, tumbled heels over head from the top to the foot of the declivity, and ran off with astonishing swiftness. Favoured by a fog, he gained a morass, into which he darted for safety, and soon discovered a hole whence peats had been dug, in which he immersed himself almost up to the neck, his head being covered with a turf. In this situation he remained till night fell, when he found his way across the country to the place where his wife lived, near his own property; and, disguising himself as a woman, he continued unmolested till the act of indemnity passed, which enabled him to shew his face without fear of danger.

NOTE [G], Vol. I. Page 152.

A TOUR from Locher-in-head along the borders of the lake, and the windings of the river Erin to its junction with the Tay, would, of itself, be sufficient to interest the traveller, did not a more extended range in traversing the next valley, Strath-tay, invite to more magnificent, if not more varied and picturesque scenery. It may not in this place, then, be deemed altogether superfluous to point out a few of the leading objects, local circumstances, and principal events, connected with or omitted in an excursion down Strathern from the west end of the Lake to the bridge of Erin, and thence to Perth: comprehending a stretch of country in which the highland and lowland districts are joined; in the course of which the traveller has an opportunity of viewing the boundaries of the ancient Caledonia and Pictish dominions south of the Tay and north of the Forth.

From Lochern-head we proceed along the south border of the lake; and, excepting a view little varied from that seen from the inn, we do not meet with much to engage the attention till we come to the bridge over the *Ample*, a rapid mountain stream that runs through Glenample, a narrow, deep ravine winding among the mountains which rise on the right shores of Locher-in. At this bridge,

on the left, the tomb of the Campbells of Monzie is to be seen; beneath which the fall of the Ample is heard, though it is yet unseen. On turning down, after passing the bridge, to the left, we command a view of this grand cascade, with all its accompaniments of rock, wood, &c. After brawling along its rocky bed, the Ample soon finds repose in the bosom of the lake, into which it falls at a very short distance from this spot.

We pass by the neat mansion of Ardvorlich, the family residence of Mr. Stewart, whose ancestors have enjoyed the same spot for several hundred years back.

Having left the borders of Locherin, about three miles from its east end, we enter on a scene so fantastically wild, fanciful, and truly charming, that no language is adequate to convey an idea of its singular beauty and enchanting peculiarities, in regard to what is usually called romantic, when applied to uncommon scenes in nature. The fairy scene alluded to is *Movaiy*, or, as it is now denominated, *Duncraig*, amid which the Right Hon. Henry Dundas has erected a hunting-seat; a situation than which few could be chosen with greater propriety.

Proceeding, we pass Dalchonzie and Aberuchil, situated amid the craggy heights skirted with natural wood that characterise the wilderness through which the Erin winds among this part of the Grampians. Soon after, we pass through the village of Comrie, so often visited with shocks of earthquakes within these few years, the last of which was on Sunday the 1st of June 1800. On the north bank of the Erin is *Lawers house*, pleasantly situated, and well sheltered by aged elms, oaks, ashes, &c.; behind which the mountains, clothed in russet hues empurpled with heath, and gilded with the bloom of whins and broom, luxuriantly waving, rise in sublime aspect. The scenery around *Auchtertyre* is no less interesting in regard to sublimity and beauty as allied to the picturesque. At *Dulginicrofs* are the remains of a Roman station or encampment.

Descending the Erin, we soon come to the entrance of this district of the highlands, near which the town of *Crieff*, or *Craai*, is situated. This pass into the Grampians is characteristic and impressive. To the south-east of *Crieff* stands *Drummond castle*, the seat of the ancient family of Perth. There are two Roman camps in the neighbourhood, viz. one at *Ardoch*, and the other at *Stragaith*; the former of which is the most entire of any Roman antiquity north of the Tweed. On the same bank of the Ern, the remains of the ancient seat of the *Murrays of Tullibardine* are to be seen; near which, according to *Lindsay of Pitcottie*, the dimensions of the length and breadth of the *Great Michael*,
 “ which

"which was the greatest ship, and of most strength, that ever sailed in England or France," were traced out, and "planted with hawthorn by the wright that helped to make her." For a description of this *great ship*, see Pitcottie's History of the Jameses, p. 195, 196.

We pursue the windings of the Erin, and keep on the left the green hills of Ochil, at the foot of which Kincardine castle, the ancient seat of the Grahams (Montroses), is situated; and to the left, on the same side of the river, the village of Auchterairder is at no great distance. We also pass through the parishes of Trinity Gask, and Gask, lying on both sides of the Erin, which for some miles appear well wooded and in the highest state of improvement. The Roman military way, which is kept pretty entire, runs through this part of the country, and leads to the camp near Ardoch. There are also on the Gask estate two Roman camps; and along the causeway, vestiges of stations, most likely for the accommodation of superintendants of repairs, are still visible.

On the north bank of the Erin the extensive woods and lawns belonging to the earl of Kinnoul round Duplin castle are deserving of the usual praise bestowed on their beauty. The scene of action of the memorable battle fought on the 12th of August 1332, between Edward Baliol and the earl of Mar, so fatal in its consequences to Scotland, was near Duplin castle; but the precise spot is unknown.

Nearly opposite to Duplin on the south bank of the Erin, at a small distance from the church of Fortiviot, are, the sequestered shades of *Invermay*, which gave rise to the pleasing lyric ballad beginning "The smiling morn, the breathing spring." On the rivulet *May* are some waterfalls, and scenery correspondent, worthy the attention of the traveller. The *Humble bumble*, as it is called, a deep and narrow chasm through which the water has wrought its passage, is among the most remarkable natural curiosities to be met with on the rural banks of this classic stream. Fortiviot was the chief residence of the Pictish monarchs during their sway in this part of the northern section of our island. Here, according to Fordun, Kenneth died, anno 860. *Vide* Fordun, xiii. 23. In the vicinity of this ancient abode of the Pictish monarchs an ample field of research for the antiquary presents, which has hitherto been but imperfectly explored. See Stat. Acc. vol. xx. and the Edinburgh Magazine, in which some account of the antiquities of Fortiviot is inserted, from a communication made by Mr. Taylor, schoolmaster at Kinross.

Having followed the beautiful windings of the Erin to *Pitkeathly Wells*, the virtues of which are highly extolled by such as resort to them for the benefit of their health, we soon come to the bridge of Erin, over which the road from Perth to Edinburgh is conducted, and to either of which places the traveller may direct his way, as inclination or any other consideration may suggest. But should he wish to pursue his journey in the direction of the Erin's course to its conflux with the Tay, he will not fail to visit *Abernethy*, situated near the junction of these rivers, the ancient capital of the Pictish dominions; from which Kenneth III. king of the Scots, in the year 840 translated the episcopal see of St. Andrew's, soon after his victory over the Picts. See Sibbald's History of the Shire of Fife; Maule's MS. Adv. Lib.; Keith's Catalogue; and Martin's Reliq. divi Andr. The celebrated St. Bridget, after having spent her days in the domestic duties of secluded life, died at Abernethy, (the collegiate church of which was dedicated to her,) about the year 518.

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